









FRANKLIN'S ARRIVAL IN PHILADELPHIA
PAINTED BY N. C. WYETH FOR THE PICTORIAL LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
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Stephens, Bush

THE
PICTORIAL LIFE
OF
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
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DIPLOMAT · PHILANTHROPIST
AND STATESMAN

PUBLISHED IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 200th ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ARRIVAL OF FRANKLIN IN PHILADELPHIA



DILL & COLLINS CO.
PHILADELPHIA

1923

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Printed in the United States*

OCT 17 1923

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FOREWORD

We present this book to the printers and users of printing of America. As paper manufacturers, we are glad of the opportunity, on the occasion of the 200th Anniversary of the Arrival of Franklin in Philadelphia, to honor the name of Benjamin Franklin, Printer. No attempt has before been made to make such a collection as this of the authentic portraits of Franklin and of the notable pictures that have been painted of scenes in his life. No serious attempt has before been made to compile a complete list of Franklin's achievements. We hope **THE PICTORIAL LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN** will be an inspiration to all Americans in informing them of the true greatness of the man.

The pictures for this book were collected by Walter Rowlands, Chief of the Fine Arts Department, Boston Public Library. The historical matter under the pictures was written by Brad Stephens. The book was designed by W. A. Dwiggins, Boston. The book was produced for us by Brad Stephens & Company, Boston.

We also wish to make acknowledgment to all those who have so generously assisted us in the preparation of this book, to Walter B. Russell, Director, the Franklin Union, Boston; Alfred Rigling, Librarian, The Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania; George Maurice Abbot, Librarian, the Library Company of Philadelphia; Henry Lewis Bullen, Librarian, Typographic Library and Museum, Jersey City; Louis A. Holman, Boston; George Simpson Eddy, New York; William S. Mason, Evanston, Ill.; Prof. W. B. Scott, Princeton University; Prof. William Duane, Harvard University; Albert Cook Myers, the Franklin Inn Club, Philadelphia; Ernest Spofford, Historical Society of Pennsylvania; George E. Nitzsche, Recorder, University of Pennsylvania; The Century Company, New York; *McClure's Magazine*; Charles Scribner's Sons, New York; Dr. I. Minis Hays, American Philosophical Society; A. J. Philpott, *The Boston Globe*; J. W. Phinney, Boston; J. M. Patterson, *The Chicago Tribune*; Mrs. Howard Pyle; Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis, Ind.; Miss Esther Singleton, *The International Studio*; Charles F. Read, Bostonian Society; Allan Forbes, State Street Trust Co. of Boston; Miss F. P. Adams, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University; L. A. Hodge, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; *The Public Ledger*, Philadelphia; John T. Tussaud, London; J. Henry Smythe, Jr., New York; and the Boston Public Library.

GRELLET COLLINS, President

Dill & Collins Co., Paper Makers
Philadelphia

SEVENTEEN HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE
NINETEEN HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE

A List

of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S Achievements

Compiled for THE PICTORIAL LIFE OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
from the Franklin Biographies of James Parton, Epes Sargent, Paul Leicester Ford
Prof. Albert Henry Smyth, and from other sources, by Brad Stephens

I

Franklin discovered that lightning is electricity. The world believed up to his time that lightning was caused by poisonous gases exploding in the air. Franklin proved, first by observation and logic, and second by actual test with his kite, that lightning and electricity are identical.

II

Franklin invented the lightning-rod which Dr. Charles P. Steinmetz of the General Electric Company says is still the best and most reliable protection we have against lightning.

III

Franklin was the first to discover that a current of electricity has a magnetic effect, *i.e.*, that it can magnetize a piece of steel. He found that a wire carrying a current of electricity and wound around a piece of iron, makes the iron a magnet. This is the fundamental principle on which the telegraph, the telephone and the electric motor are based.

IV

Franklin gave the world the best theory of electricity. After more than 150 years of further investigation and controversy, modern science has finally adopted his early conclusions. These were that electricity consists of very minute particles, so small that they can pass between the atoms of ordinary matter. He believed that these minute particles of electricity, or atoms of electricity, repel each other and are attracted by the atoms of ordinary matter. His idea was that the phenomena of nature are due to the actions and reactions of atoms of electricity with atoms of ordinary matter. This is precisely the view held today by men of science. Within the last thirty or forty years scientific men have been able to isolate and study in detail these atoms of electricity, which are now called electrons. It is by means of these electrons that we send wireless telegraph and telephone messages, and are able to broadcast concerts and speeches so satisfactorily.

V

He invented the Franklin stove, the first successful wood-burning stove used in this country.

VI

He invented double spectacles—near and far-sight glasses—making a pair for his own use.

VII

He invented and made the first mangle for ironing clothes, and General George Washington witnessed a demonstration of this machine.

VIII

He invented the invaluable contrivance by which a fire consumes its own smoke, and made the first smoke-consuming stove or furnace.

IX

He was instrumental in establishing 18 paper mills in the American Colonies.

X

He helped to establish the first fire insurance company in America, The Philadelphia Contributionship for the Insurance of Houses from Loss by Fire.

XI

He invented a copying press for taking copies of letters or other writing.

XII

He pointed out the advantage, later adopted universally, of building ships with water-tight compartments, taking the hint from the Chinese.

XIII

He was the first to discover that northeast storms come out of the southwest, in other words, that storms travel in an opposite direction to the winds.

XIV

His investigations concerning the weather resulted in the establishment of our United States Weather Bureau of which he is today acknowledged to be the father.

XV

He was the first to discover that the temperature of the Gulf Stream is higher than that of the sur-

rounding water, and the first to have the Gulf Stream charted.

XVI

He delivered mankind from the nuisance, once universal, of smoky chimneys. His pamphlet, "Cause and Cure of Smoky Chimneys," revealed the correct principles of chimney construction and rid the world of smoky chimneys and fire places.

XVII

He was the first to demonstrate that oil on the water will still the waves.

XVIII

Although not the discoverer, he was the first to demonstrate the production of cold by evaporation, a fact up to that time unknown to science.

XIX

Franklin devised a reformed alphabet which was based on simplified or phonetic spelling.

XX

Franklin was the first to propose daylight saving.

XXI

Franklin helped Thomas Jefferson to write the Declaration of Independence.

XXII

Franklin organized our postal system and was our first postmaster general.

XXIII

Franklin founded the University of Pennsylvania.

XXIV

Franklin conceived the idea and established in Philadelphia the first successful circulating library.

XXV

More than any other man, Franklin was instrumental in securing the repeal of the Stamp Tax.

XXVI

He invented the Harmonica, or Armonica as he called it, which was a musical instrument consisting of a series of circular glasses revolving on a spindle and partly immersed in water. The music was produced by holding the fingers against the revolving glasses.

XXVII

Franklin made tests of various colored cloths on snow which showed that black and dark colors attract the heat of the sun and that white does not attract the heat. He made recommendations regarding white clothes for the tropics and white

cloth helmets for the troops in India which were adopted many years later by the British.

XXVIII

Franklin was the originator of the modern science of the art of ventilation. He was the first to discover the poisonous quality which repeated respirations impart to the air in a room. He was the first to call attention to the folly of excluding fresh air from hospitals and sick rooms. When all the world slept with bedroom windows tightly closed, Franklin was the only effective preacher of the gospel of pure air and ventilation; and John Adams maintained that Franklin was a victim of his own foolish theories about air bathing.

XXIX

Franklin introduced rhubarb into America. He suggested the use of mineral fertilizers. He promoted the silk culture in Pennsylvania. He introduced the yellow willow into America for basket-making. He taught the farmers of Pennsylvania to plaster their land. He introduced broom corn into Pennsylvania from Virginia. He introduced Rheinish grape-vines into Massachusetts.

XXX

Franklin organized the first anti-slavery society and made the first protest to Congress against negro slavery. His last public act was to write against slavery, 24 days before he died, one of his most telling satirical pieces for the *Federal Gazette*.

XXXI

Franklin edited the best newspaper and the most successful newspaper in all the colonies. He was the first to attempt to illustrate the news in an American newspaper, and also the first to publish questions and answers in a newspaper. He is said to have drawn the first newspaper cartoon, the picture of a snake cut into 13 sections to represent the colonies before the Revolution.

XXXII

With Lord Despencer, Franklin revised the Prayer Book of the Church of England. This was not adopted in England but was later adopted in part in America. Franklin's purpose was, as Parton says: "To extinguish theology, which he thought divided and distracted mankind to no purpose, and to restore religion, which he believed tended to exalt, refine, unite, assure and calm the anxious sons of men."

XXXIII

Parton says that Franklin was the founder of the Democratic party in American politics, that great party which Parton maintains was always right on every leading issue throughout all the early years of the Republic.

XXXIV

In the war with France in 1758, Franklin suggested to the British Government the idea of an expedition against Canada. The British finally sent Wolfe to Canada, Quebec was captured, and Canada became a British province.

XXXV

Franklin's suggestion regarding our copper coins was never adopted. He proposed that they should bear on one side the proverbs of Solomon, and sayings that would encourage thrift, such for example as the following—"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom," "Honesty is the best policy," "Plough deep while sluggards sleep," and "Diligence is the Mother of good luck."

XXXVI

Franklin offered to pay personally for the tea dumped in Boston Harbor in order to secure the repeal of the Stamp Tax. This would have cost him about \$75,000.

XXXVII

Lord Chatham said before Parliament that Franklin was "an honor not to the English nation only, but to human nature."

XXXVIII

Franklin started the first thrift campaign, and that campaign is still going on. His maxims of Poor Richard did more to encourage thrift and industry in the colonies than any other one thing and they were circulated all over the world. Sargent says that they have been more often translated and printed than any other work of an American author.

XXXIX

"Franklin," says Parton, "was the first to turn to great account the engine of advertising, now an indispensable element in modern business."

XXXL

Franklin's work in establishing the independence of our country in the very beginning was so important that he was the one who was first called the Father of His Country. That title years later passed to Washington. But Carlyle said that Franklin was "the father of all the Yankees."

XLI

Of all the patriots, Franklin was the only one to sign all four of the great state papers that achieved our independence—the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with England, and the Constitution of the United States.

XLII

Franklin was our greatest diplomat and secured for us the aid of France in the Revolution and millions in money without which our independence at that time could not have been established.

XLIII

Franklin devised the first scheme for uniting the colonies, more than 20 years before the Revolution, and his plan of confederation was finally adopted in all its essential features and binds our Union together today. If this plan had been carried out when Franklin proposed it, he believed it would have prevented the Revolutionary War, and would have secured our independence without a single battle.

XLIV

If Franklin did not originally suggest the Continental Congress, he was one of the very first to approve it. Long before the majority in the Continental Congress could see the wisdom of his purpose or were even willing to consider the idea, he prepared the first plan of confederation of the colonies to be presented to that body, and suggested a name, "The United Colonies of North America."

XLV

Parton says that the greatest event in Franklin's life was his deliberate and final choice to dedicate himself to virtue and the public good.

XLVI

Whoever did more for a city than Franklin did for Philadelphia? He caused the city to be paved; he invented a better type of street lamp for lighting the city; and he organized the first street cleaning. More than this, he reorganized the antiquated city watch and caused the city to be efficiently policed; and he established the first fire engine company to protect the city from fire. More than this, he established there the first academy, the first library and the first hospital. More than this, he organized the first militia in the Province of Pennsylvania to protect the city of Philadelphia and other places from attacks by French and Spanish privateers and by Indians.

XLVII

Franklin made a comfortable fortune in the printing business in 20 years. He retired from active business at 42 years of age so as to be able to devote the remainder of his life to scientific study and "to doing good."

XLVIII

It was Franklin's compromise idea regarding the Senate and the House of Representatives that

saved the Constitution. The delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia were irreconcilably divided over the question of how the states should be represented in the Congress. The smaller states wanted to be represented as states on an equal voting basis with the states of large population. And the larger states were resolved to be represented only by population. Franklin himself was for one national legislative body only, and that body to represent the states according to their population. But when danger threatened the establishment of the Constitution and the United States of America, he gave up his own wishes, and proposed what Parton says was the "happiest political expedient ever devised," a Senate to represent all the states equally, and a House of Representatives to represent the states according to their population.

XLIX

Franklin's last great work for his country was in the Constitutional Convention which met in Philadelphia in May, 1787. Although now 81 years of age and part of the time so weak in his legs that he had to be carried to and from the Convention in a sedan chair, he attended regularly, five hours a day for more than four months. At the suggestion of Washington, the delegates greeted him standing. Washington in the chair and Franklin on the floor worked together. They carried the Convention through in spite of obstacles and differences of opinion that, but for them, would have proved fatal to the establishment of the Constitution at this time. With a few words or a humorous story Franklin would de-

molish a long opposing speech of a delegate, or ease the situation over a critical period. Several times it is said the delegates broke up to return home, but Franklin got them together again and persuaded them to continue. At one time when it seemed that the Convention must dissolve without accomplishing anything, Franklin offered his famous resolution for prayers, saying that in the beginning of the contest with Britain the Continental Congress had offered daily prayers "in this room" for Divine protection, and that these prayers were heard and graciously answered.

"I have lived, sir, a long time," he concluded; "and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth: *That God governs in the affairs of men.*"

The resolution was not adopted, but prayers are now offered in the Senate and the House of Representatives, in all our state legislatures, and in most legislative bodies throughout the world.

* * *

"When I was a boy I met with a book entitled *Essays to do Good*, which, I think, was written by your father. It had been so little regarded by a former possessor that several leaves of it were torn out, but the remainder gave me such a turn of thinking as to have an influence on my conduct through life; for I have always set a greater value on the character of a *doer of good* than on any other kind of reputation; and, if I have been, as you seem to think, a useful citizen, the public owes the advantage of it to that book." *From a letter written by Franklin in 1784 to Dr. Mather in Boston, the son of Cotton Mather.*

THE GREATNESS OF
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
BY
HENRY LEWIS BULLEN
LIBRARIAN, TYPOGRAPHIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY

M EASURED by his achievements, Benjamin Franklin is the greatest of Americans. Many have been great in one thing; he was great in many things. His discovery of a new science, the science of electricity, hidden from human intelligence since the creation of man, is of inestimable value to mankind. As a patriot, he, more than any other man, made Independence possible. As a statesman he inserted the provision which made our Constitution acceptable to all the States, irrespective of their population, and has vitalized it ever since. The benefits derived from his extraordinary powers of initiative and accomplishment are for all time. He made many precepts and practised them himself—successfully. He was wise and philanthropic and tolerant. Utterly without pretence or pose, he was the exemplar of what a citizen of a democratic nation should be.

His Pre-eminence in the Colonial Period

Benjamin Franklin had two careers. His first career ended in 1775, when he returned from England after the eventful year of 1774, during which he had been examined by the adverse Privy Council, had been dismissed by the British ministry from his office of deputy postmaster-general in the Colonies, and had presented to George III the final petition of the first Continental Congress, which foreshadowed the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence. Franklin was then in his seventieth year, somewhat broken in health, saddened (as all thoughtful men were) by the impending dismemberment of a great empire, and avowedly anxious to enter upon the life of a retired philosopher to which end he had acquired a sufficient fortune. He had incurred the bitter enmity of the British government and had subjected himself to the peril of imprisonment, and possibly death, because of his patriotic devotion to the American colonists. Franklin had been abroad since 1764 as agent for the colonies of Pennsylvania, Georgia, New Jersey and Massachusetts. After ten years' absence, though welcomed by the patriotic leaders of public opinion, he received no popular recognition of his services as he landed in Philadelphia on May 5, 1775. This cool reception, together with the fact that his tremendous achievements in discovering a new

science were better known and more highly esteemed in Europe than in his own country, confirmed Franklin in his desire to retire to private life, there to engage in philosophical studies.

His Honors in the Colonial Period

It is indisputable that in 1775 Franklin was the only great American, and the only American known to Europe, either as author, scientist, philosopher or statesman, in each of which avocations his eminence was recognized in all learned, influential and official circles in Europe. In his own country he had received high honors at various times. He had been elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons; elected a member of the City Council of Philadelphia; elected and re-elected for fourteen years to the Assembly of Pennsylvania; appointed a Commissioner to make a treaty with the Indians; appointed (in 1753) Deputy Postmaster-General for the Colonies; made Master of Arts by the colleges of Harvard and Yale; appointed to take command of the defence of the western frontier after General Braddock's English army had been defeated and dispersed near Pittsburgh by the French and Indians; appointed (in 1757) Agent in London for the Assembly of Pennsylvania, to urge their rights in opposition to the Penn family and the British government; elected Speaker of the Assembly of Pennsylvania in 1764 and in the same year again sent to London as Agent for four of the Colonies. In Europe in 1753 he had been awarded the Copley Gold Medal of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences, its highest honor; elected a Fellow of the Royal Societies of London and of Gottingen, the Royal Academy of Sciences in Paris, and the Philosophical Societies of Edinburgh and Rotterdam; and had received the degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of St. Andrews and of Doctor of Common Law from the University of Oxford. He enjoyed intimate friendships with Edmund Burke, Lord Chatham, Fox and Sheridan, the shining lights of statesmanship in Great Britain, all of whom he won over to the American cause.

Thus, in 1775, Franklin stood alone as America's one great man—a great man of the dynamical as distinguished from the accidental order of greatness. At the age of twenty-five, three years after

becoming a master printer, and while still struggling for a secure livelihood, he had founded the first circulating library in America, the Library Company of Philadelphia, still continuing, of which he was the first (honorary) librarian. Five years later he organized the first fire company in Philadelphia. In 1742 he invented the highly scientific Franklin Open Stove, which gradually displaced the huge colonial fireplaces and was the beginning of our stove manufacturing industry. In 1743 he founded the now famous American Philosophical Society and acted as its first secretary. In 1749 he initiated the movement which led to the founding of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1751, he, by pen and printing, took the initiative in promoting and founding the Pennsylvania Hospital. In 1754 he represented Pennsylvania in the first Congress of the Colonies, assembled in Albany, largely through his efforts, where he submitted a plan for a Union (prefiguring our present Union), the object being common defense. These activities, undertaken and carried through without financial reward and at much expense to himself, were not of a character to arouse popular enthusiasm, then or now. They were for the benefit of his countrymen and would have had a comparatively small space in history, if meanwhile, beginning in 1745, he had not become the greatest of contemporary scientists through his discovery of the properties of electricity and the means to make it serviceable.

His Discovery of a New Science

"It seldom falls to the lot of any scientific man, no matter how great his ability, that he is able to follow a road so absolutely new that it has never been traversed before. This unquestionably was the case with Franklin, in his grand discovery of drawing lightning from the sky for the use of mankind, thus robbing Jove of his thunderbolts." Thus spoke one of America's greater electrical scientists, Dr. Edwin James Houston, before an audience of distinguished scientists, assembled in honor of Franklin in 1906. Houston also said on the same occasion: *"Benjamin Franklin may properly be regarded as the most distinguished man of science that this country has ever produced."* High and authoritative praise, indeed; but not quite adequate to the event! Franklin had discovered an entirely New Science. He had discovered that a great force in Nature, which had affrighted and mystified successive generations of the wise and the foolish through countless ages, could be made to be a supreme servant of mankind. He was the first to tame the lightning and to harness it to beneficial work. It was a sublime event, though its far-reaching possibilities could not then be imagined. Franklin's pioneer discovery of a new science opened avenues to fame for Morse, Faraday, Edison and hundreds of others.

How did this man find time to accomplish so many important tasks? Franklin himself tells us in a little book written by him and incorporated in the last issue of his almanac, *Poor Richard*, in 1757. This book, if he had written nothing else, would have established his fame as America's first eminent author. It is a compilation of the wit and wisdom written by Franklin during a course of twenty-five years for his *Poor Richard's Almanac*. The original title of the first separate issue is *Father Abraham's Speech to a great Number of People, at a Vendue of Merchant Goods; introduced to the Publick by Poor Richard (a famous Pennsylvanian Conjuror and Almanack-Maker), in answer to the following Questions: Pray, Father Abraham, what think you of the Times? Won't these heavy Taxes quite ruin the Country? How shall we be ever able to pay them? What would you advise us to do?* This earliest American classic was first printed and published by Franklin's nephew, Benjamin Mecom, in 1760, in Boston. In it, as we have said, Franklin tells us how to deal with Time:

Methinks I hear some one of you say: "Must a man afford himself no leisure?" I will tell you, my friend, what *Poor Richard* says:

"Employ thy time well, if thou meanest to gain leisure; and since thou art not sure of a minute, throw not away an hour. Leisure is time for doing something useful; this leisure the diligent man will obtain, but the lazy man never."

"Lost time is never found again, and what we call 'time enough' always proves too little."

This book is popularly known as *The Way to Wealth*. It has been translated into Spanish, Danish, Swedish, Welsh, Polish, Gaelic, Russian, Bohemian, Dutch, Catalan, Chinese, Modern Greek and Phonetics. There have been at least four hundred printings, and its wit, wisdom and true philosophy have permeated the daily thought and conversation of the inhabitants of many countries. It is one of the world's permanent literary possessions. It explains Franklin. By following his own precepts he prospered in all his adventures and his memory has become immortal. Time was Franklin's servant, not his master!

His Rank and Recognition as a Scientist

Franklin began his experiments in electricity in 1745. In that year he met a lecturer newly arrived from England and bought from him an electrical apparatus which produced electric sparks by friction, and soon after he imported a small electrical tube which generated electricity by friction, and was sold as a toy in Europe, producing slight electrical shocks and sparks. In the next year the Leyden jar, precursor of storage batteries, was discovered accidentally. With it could be stored a measurable quantity of electrical energy produced by frictional apparatus. Interesting and important as these inventions proved to be, no one had sought to discover any utility in them, until they

fell into the hands of Franklin in far-off Philadelphia. He was the first to prove that these early weak and artificial emanations of electricity were identical with lightning, and had positive and negative excitements, by means of which great energy could be produced, which could be made useful to mankind. He invented an electrical machine of greater power. In pursuit of his self-assumed duties as Secretary of the Philosophical Society and of the Library, he had established a correspondence with Peter Collinson of London, a scientist and a member of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences. Collinson sent him the electrical tube, a fact disclosed in a letter to Collinson, dated March 28, 1747, in which Franklin says:

For my own part, I never was before engaged in any study that so totally engrossed my attention and my time as this has done lately; for, what with making experiments when I can be alone, and repeating them to my friends and acquaintances, who, from the novelty of the thing, come continually in crowds to see them, I have, during some months past, had little leisure for anything else.

In a letter dated July 11, 1747, Franklin began the memorable series of communications to Collinson which were eventually printed in a series of pamphlets, the first of which appeared in 1751, with the title, *Experiments and Observations on Electricity, made at Philadelphia in America, by Mr. Benjamin Franklin, and communicated in several letters to P. Collinson of London, F.R.S.*, pp. 90, with 2 plates.

The second pamphlet appeared in 1754: *New Experiments and Observations on Electricity*, etc. The third appeared in 1760. In Paris these letters were first printed in 1752. In Sweden they were first printed (in German) in 1758. The final edition in English of the letters appeared in 1765. When the first letters were submitted to the Royal Society by Collinson in 1747 they had been received with derision; but these printed publications immediately caused a profound sensation in all centres of science in Europe. The Royal Society hastened to bestow its chiefest honor on the far-off American, and elected him a Fellow. The king of France caused a letter of thanks to be sent to the great discoverer. Newton, the discoverer of the principle of gravitation, had died in 1727, and here was an American printer become the greatest of living scientists, and found eligible to share immortal fame with Columbus, Copernicus, Newton and Watt. Little wonder then, that when Franklin arrived in London in 1757, as Agent for the Colonies, he was received by the scientific world as a conquering hero. He had conquered a force more terrible than all the armies of history combined.

There is a general impression, it seems, that Franklin made his discoveries through a succession of fortunate accidents. One has only to read the letters to Collinson to be disabused of such an

opinion. He developed his theory of the identity of lightning with electricity and stated the basis of the theory and the experiments to confirm it in 1747, but the spectacular kite-flying proof was not accomplished until June in 1752. The letters to Collinson, illustrated by diagrams and pictures drawn by his own hand, record each step in his studies and experiments minutely, comprehensively and explicitly, disclosing his mistakes and errors of deduction as fully as his final facts. Never did any discoverer show his hand more frankly or more modestly. He was the first man to make electricity useful and the first to provide means to control its mighty power. He invited lightning to enter his home to ring signal bells and create other manifestations, after he had discovered the principle of his metal lightning rod, an invention that has saved innumerable structures from damage or destruction these many years. Never did scientist proceed more scientifically or more diligently, to accomplish his object. One of the more formal of his reports to Collinson has this modest title: *Opinions and Conjectures concerning the Properties and Effects of Electrical Matter, arising from Experiments and Observations made at Philadelphia, 1749*. It was not in him to be dogmatic. He presented the facts and his conclusions for what they might be worth; but authorities in electrical science agree that few of his final opinions and conjectures have been superseded during the long period of development of that science since they were so modestly announced. Thus he wrote to Collinson:

These thoughts, my dear friend, are many of them crude and hasty. If I were merely ambitious of acquiring some reputation in philosophy I ought to keep them by me, till corrected and improved by time and experience. But since even short hints and imperfect experiments in any branch of science, being communicated, have often times a good effect, in exciting the attention of the ingenious to the subject, and so become the occasion of more exact disquisition and more complete discoveries, you are at liberty to communicate this paper to whom you please, it being of more importance that knowledge should increase than that your friend should be thought an accurate philosopher. Verily this is a noble letter, and entirely characteristic. Might we not call it chivalrous—as chivalrous in its way as the terms proposed by a chivalrous Grant to a defeated Lee. Science may have its chivalry no less renowned than war!

His Eminence as a Philanthropist

As an advocate of thrift Franklin's character has been misunderstood by many. His was a generous nature in every sense of that term. Lavish of his time and energy in good works, he used his printing house to gratuitously print and circulate pamphlets inculcating new ideas or to promote benevolent projects. He was a generous and considerate father, husband, brother and friend. He was a master spender as well as a

master economizer! In everything he undertook he was a great and wise Liberal—and whatever he undertook he accomplished. There was no penny-wisdom in his head or heart. Let it be also understood that Franklin deliberately gave all his scientific discoveries to the world without the slightest profit from patents (which he might have secured), publications, copyrights or other sources of income then available to inventors and authors. His stove and his lightning rod were quickly marketed by various persons.

His Versatility as a Scientist

His electrical discoveries constitute the chief basis of Franklin's immutable fame as a scientist, but it should not be forgotten that he was the pioneer in other notable scientific discoveries. These are described in books relating to all of Franklin's discoveries, published in London in 1769 and in Paris in 1773. The two-volume, handsomely printed edition in French was edited by Barbeu Dubourg. It is the most complete book relating to Franklin's more important scientific discoveries that was issued in his lifetime. A translation of it was printed in Italian in Milan in the following year. Dubourg says in the preface:

My affection for the author has made me undertake the translation, and his friendship for me has caused him to draw from his portfolio, to enrich this edition, many pieces which have not before appeared.

Briefly, then, of other achievements: Franklin made the first chart of the Gulf Stream. As postmaster-general he observed that mails forwarded to New York arrived much later than on ships bound for Newport. By diligent inquiry among seamen, and observations taken when voyaging to and from Europe, he discovered that ships entering the Gulf Stream in light airs or in calms were driven eastward by its strong current, sometimes as much as three miles an hour, and that the Newport captains had learned how to avoid the current. Franklin prepared and printed a chart and forwarded copies of it to English ports for the use of captains, that they might sail along the edge of the current. This chart was also printed and distributed in France. Franklin delimited the areas and current of the Gulf Stream by means of thermometers—an idea original with him. He invented the swimming anchor, used in situations where the sea is too deep for cable anchors. He discovered the cause of waterspouts at sea, and made the first scientific inquiries into the sources of wind storms and thunderstorms. As early as 1744 he was the first to establish the fact that our northeast storms start in the southwest. His observations, made by correspondence and by enlisting a volunteer band of observers, proved to be scientifically exact, and the data thus collected form to this day a basis for making forecasts of coming changes in weather by our Weather Bureau. Among minor inventions there

are the street lamp that prevented the glass from being smoked, which had a world-wide use until electric lamps superseded oil and gas; bifocal eye glasses, invented for Franklin's own use; a musical instrument called an harmonica, a pulse glass and improvements in the printing press.

Franklin was a constant and keen observer of natural phenomena and an assiduous experimenter in a wide range of research. The record of these observations and experiments are to be found in his published works and correspondence, the latest and most complete edition of which is *The Life and Writings of Benjamin Franklin*, edited by Albert Henry Smyth, and published in ten volumes in 1905. In that year there were in four great libraries no less than 16,678 letters and manuscripts of Franklin, besides many others known to be in private collections. Most of these have been published. From early life he had the habit of preserving his correspondence and manuscripts. Autographic letters of this illustrious man find a ready sale to collectors at prices ranging from one hundred to three hundred dollars each.

When, as he supposed, Franklin had ended his public career, as he landed in Philadelphia on May 5, 1775, he brought with him from Europe the knowledge that the celebrity of his scientific discoveries, the wide circulation of his *Way to Wealth* and his masterly defense of his fellow countrymen in England, had established a degree of fame rivalled only among his contemporaries by that of Voltaire, Frederick the Great, J. J. Rousseau, Burke and the elder Pitt, none of whom was comparable with him in versatility of genius or in achievements. This was the Franklin whom the learned men of the world assembled to honor in Philadelphia one hundred and thirty-one years later, in 1906, celebrating with exercises, covering several days, the two-hundredth anniversary of his birth, under the auspices of the American Philosophical Society, of which he was the founder. One hundred and twenty-six universities and eminent learned societies of Italy, England, Scotland, France, Germany, Spain, Holland, Canada, Austria, New Zealand, Japan, Belgium, Mexico and Australia were officially represented, including sixty-six American institutions of science and learning.

* * * *

He Begins a Second Great Career

But Franklin was not allowed to rest. While on his voyage from England the war of the Revolution had opened with the memorable skirmish at Concord. A second Continental Congress was summoned to convene on May 10, 1775. In the "time that tried men's souls" the patriot leaders turned confidently to the aged Franklin. The day after his arrival he was elected Delegate to the Continental Congress. Thus he began his second career. On June 17 the battle of Bunker Hill in-

tensified the crisis. Franklin was elected Chairman of the Committee of Safety of Pennsylvania. Simultaneously he proposed to the Congress his *Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union*, and accepted the position of Postmaster-General for one year, with the task of preserving communications between the revolting colonies and foreign countries. He was a member of ten committees. Writing to a friend on July 7 of that busy year, he said, "In the morning at six I am at the Committee of Safety, which holds till near nine, when I am at Congress, and that sits until near four in the afternoon." When appointed to a committee he was the committee. He personally planned the effective defences of the Delaware. When lukewarm or timorous patriots dilated upon the expense of the war, Franklin replied, "I am not terrified by the expense of this war, should it continue ever so long."

George Washington of Virginia had been elected commander-in-chief of the Continental Army in June, 1775, and hastened to its headquarters in Cambridge. In September of the same year Washington reported that his army was falling to pieces, with no proper shelter, no fuel, insufficient clothing, no money and little food. Congress asked Franklin to go to Cambridge as head of a committee of three, empowered to reorganize the army. It was a six weeks' task, including a ride of thirteen days each way, to cooperate with Washington in devising a plan which was followed until the end of the war. Such was the home coming of the aged philosopher.

On the Verge of Becoming a Martyr

One of the first campaigns of the war was against the British garrison in Canada, in the hope of bringing that country into the new confederation. The campaign failed, and Montgomery, the commander, was killed in the assault on the British garrison in Quebec, Colonel Arnold assuming command of a disheartened army. Congress, early in 1776, knew of no better remedy than to send Dr. Franklin to the rescue. With two other commissioners he undertook the journey to Montreal, empowered to receive that country into the Union, reorganize the system of government, suspend military officers, issue military commissions, raise additional troops and expend one hundred thousand dollars (which were not provided, however). As the journey to Canada progressed Franklin wrote, "At Saratoga I began to apprehend that I have undertaken a fatigue which, at my time of life, may prove too much for me; so I sit down to write to a few friends by way of farewell." Nevertheless, the journey was completed, only to discover that Canada would not or could not join, in face of the arrival of a British fleet and army and the bankruptcy of the American treasury. Franklin had provided the expenses of the expedition and had advanced

cash to Colonel Arnold and to his fellow commissioners, who returned with him to Philadelphia in June, after an absence of ten weeks.

Then came the *Declaration of Independence*, which Franklin assisted in preparing and heartily defended against the objectors, urging the deputies to sign, saying, "We must all hang together or most assuredly we shall all hang separately." (Do we sufficiently appreciate the fact that each member of the Congress was signing his death warrant in the event of defeat?) Later in the year in an address to the Assembly of Pennsylvania (in which a powerful minority opposed secession), Franklin declared in a sentence that stimulated patriot hearts that "they who can give up essential liberty to gain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." Thus the old man flung himself, with astonishing vigor and ardor, "into the deadly imminent breach" of the conflict, as heroic as any man who drew a sword or fired a musket. It was at this time that men called him the "Father of his Country," though still unaware that he was on the eve of becoming the "Saviour of his Country."

He Risks His Life for His Country

Without an ally, without funds to buy war munitions or the means of making them, assistance from Europe was essential to the success of the American cause. Franklin was Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations. He had many influential friends in Europe—in Holland and in France. Could these countries be persuaded to help? Franklin thought that they could. He solicited aid through his friends. Congress sent Silas Deane to France, with instructions to ask for twenty-five thousand men, one hundred field artillery and ammunition and arms on credit. Months passed without any report from Deane, but in September, 1776, Franklin received an encouraging letter from his influential friend Dubourg, who had tentatively approached the French government. Thus encouraged, Congress decided to send an embassy to France. Franklin was elected unanimously, a second ballot added Jefferson, a third added Silas Deane. Franklin was reluctant to go, but in face of the unanimous vote he consented, saying, "I am old and good for nothing; but as the storekeepers say of their remnants of cloth, I am a fag end, and you may have me for what you please." Jefferson's ill health prevented his accepting, and finally Franklin embarked alone in an armed sloop, in peril of his life in the event of capture, but arrived safely in Paris late in December, 1776. The voyage was stormy, the sloop was chased (ineffectually), but the scientist asserted himself, and took the temperature of the ocean daily while passing through the Gulf Stream, by way of verifying the chart made in earlier years! Franklin's last act when leaving Philadelphia was to loan to the Conti-

national treasurer all his available funds (about £4000), a welcome contribution to an almost empty treasury. All his employments since his return from Europe had been without salary or expenses. His was a self-financing embassy.

His Prestige in Europe

Franklin's mission to France was exceedingly difficult. Primarily it was to induce France, then at peace with Great Britain, to involve itself in war with the latter country, in order to aid a remote, weak and despondent body of rebels. Deane had not succeeded in opening negotiations. Deane had persuaded certain merchants to load two small vessels with military supplies, but in compliance with the protest of the British Ambassador the French government prohibited the exportation. Finding the French minister of foreign affairs (not inexcusably) obdurate, Franklin secured a credit of two million livres (francs) from French bankers through the influence of his friend and with no other security than his own amazing prestige and popularity. John Adams, ever envious of Franklin's fame, described this popularity, somewhat ironically, in a letter of a later date:

Franklin's reputation was more universal than that of Leibnitz or Newton, Frederick or Voltaire, and his character more beloved and esteemed than any or all of them. His name was familiar to government and people, to kings, courtiers, nobility, clergy and philosophers, as well as plebeians to such a degree that there was scarcely a peasant or citizen, a valet de chambre, coachman or footman, or lady's chamber maid or scullion in a kitchen, who was not familiar with it, and who did not consider him a friend to human kind. When they spoke of him, they seemed to think he was to restore the golden age.

A German official, in Paris at the time, wrote:

Franklin's appearance in the Paris *salons*, even before he began to negotiate, was an event of great importance to the whole of Europe. Paris set the fashions for the civilized world, and the admiration of Franklin, carried to a degree approaching folly, produced a remarkable influence on its fashionable circles.

Europe was quickly inundated with souvenirs of Franklin medals; portraits of all kinds—on snuff boxes and in lockets, and some so small as to be worn in rings, busts, etc. One of his secretaries brought back to America a collection of one hundred and fifty varieties of these mementos.

He Makes our Independence Sure

How valuable to his own country this popularity proved to be is shown by the course of events. The loan of the bankers to be repaid at the conclusion of the war was in itself an amazing achievement in face of continuous military disaster in America, with Washington retreating across New Jersey before Lord Howe's army. At this dark period, too, fired with admiration for Franklin, Lafayette with other equally ardent compatriots sailed for America in a ship of their own providing.

Other loans were negotiated, while the French government, though not an avowed ally, placed no obstructions in the path of Franklin's energetic activities. Much to the annoyance of the protesting British government, he was received with special honors in royal and ministerial circles.

True to his knowledge of the power of printing he set up a printing outfit in his residence, and advised all Europe, and especially the people of England, of the merits of his country's cause and the demerits of its enemies, meanwhile raising funds, shipping munitions of war, and equipping armed vessels to wage war on British commerce in European waters (with fair success,) notably so by vessels commanded at a later date by the aggressive John Paul Jones. It is conceded that no other man could have done so much for America in Europe. His activities, the money and supplies he provided and the war he carried on in European waters were as essential to the ultimate victory as any of the subsequent victories in America. No man did more to secure Independence, and no other man was so uniformly successful in his undertakings. He suffered no defeats, and when the Americans turned from defeat to the victories of Trenton, Philadelphia and Saratoga, the principal aim of Franklin's policy became possible. The news of Burgoyne's surrender to General Gates at Saratoga reached Franklin in Paris on December 4, 1777, one year after his arrival. On December 8 Franklin forwarded a memorial to the minister proposing an alliance. On December 13 Franklin renewed his request for an armed convoy for four ships laden with munitions and stores which had been prevented from sailing from Nantes by the proximity of a British fleet. (The miseries of Valley Forge were principally due to this detention). On December 14 a royal frigate was ordered to prepare for sea to announce to the Americans the news of an alliance. This ship sailed on January 1. On December 15 the request for an armed convoy was granted. On February 6 the treaty of alliance was signed, England immediately declared war against France and French fleets were hurried to the aid of America. All France celebrated the event—the glorious diplomatic victory of "Poor Richard." By this alliance victory and independence were assured. Nevertheless in 1780 Washington wrote to Franklin—"we must have one of two things, peace or money from France." Franklin responded by procuring the money, getting a free gift or credit of six million francs from the French treasury. In all Franklin procured at various times twenty-six millions of francs: in 1777, two millions; in 1778, three millions; in 1779, one million; in 1780, four millions; in 1781, ten millions; in 1782, six millions.

The alliance consummated, Franklin, now sole plenipotentiary, kept up a vigorous fight, yet directed his efforts towards securing from Eng-

land a peace with victory. Finally such a peace was concluded and confirmed by a treaty signed on November 3, 1783, in Paris, the negotiators being Franklin, Jay and Adams. Franklin now asked for his recall, but it was not until March 7, 1785, that he was succeeded by Thomas Jefferson. "You replace Dr. Franklin, I hear," said the French Minister of Foreign Affairs. "I succeed him; no one can replace him," replied the great gentleman from Virginia.

His Appreciation of Washington

Franklin, like Washington, was hurt at times by the uncouth ingratitude of a minority in the Continental Congress. While, as Jefferson relates, "there appeared to be more respect and veneration attached to the character of Dr. Franklin than to that of any other person," he was not always treated courteously by the Congress. When Washington was similarly contending with American ingrates in 1780, Franklin wrote him an appreciative letter, in which he said:

Should peace arrive after another campaign or two and afford us a little leisure, I should be happy to see your Excellency in Europe, and to accompany you, if my age and strength would permit, in visiting some of its ancient and most famous kingdoms. You would, on this side of the sea, enjoy the great reputation you have acquired, pure and free from those little shades that the jealousy and envy of a man's countrymen and contemporaries are ever endeavoring to cast over living merit. Here you would know and enjoy what posterity will say of Washington; for a thousand leagues have nearly the same effect with a thousand years. The feeble voice of those groveling passions cannot extend so far, either in distance or time. At present I enjoy that pleasure for you, as I frequently hear the old generals of this martial country, who study the maps of America and mark upon them all your operations, speak with sincere approbation and great applause of your conduct, and join in giving you the character of one of the greatest captains of the age.

On July 12, 1785, Franklin began his homeward journey from Passy. Not only Jefferson and many high officials were there, but all the villagers. "When he left Passy," says Jefferson, "it seemed as if the village had lost its patriarch." And his grandson wrote, "My grandpapa ascended his litter in the midst of a very great concourse of the people of Passy. A mournful silence reigned around him, interrupted only by sobs." These are tributes given only to the wise and good.

He Returns Victorious

On September 13 he landed in Philadelphia. "We landed at Market street wharf, where we were received by a crowd of people with huzzas, and accompanied with acclamations to my door. Found my family well. God be praised and thanked for all His mercies!" Next day the Assembly of Pennsylvania voted him a congratulatory address:

"We are confident, Sir, that we speak the sentiment of the whole country, when we say that your services in the public councils and negotiations have not only merited the thanks of the present generation, but will be recorded in the pages of history to your immortal honor."

In October 1785, Franklin was elected President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, receiving seventy-six out of seventy-seven votes. He was persuaded to accept upon representations that he alone could restore harmony among the political factions. "I had not firmness enough to resist the unanimous desire of my country folks, and I find myself again in their service for another year. They engrossed the prime of my life; they have eaten my flesh, and seem resolved now to pick my bones!" Was ever a patriot worked so hard?

He Makes Perpetual Union Possible

In 1787 it was thought wise to hold a convention to devise a better form of government and a constitution. Dr. Franklin was elected a Delegate from Pennsylvania. For four months he attended the convention regularly, five hours a day. In that illustrious assembly the members solicited his daily guidance. At one time the proceedings came to a deadlock between the great and small States, the latter fearful of being out-voted in the proposed Congress. This dilemma gave Franklin his last great opportunity to serve his countrymen. He effected the compromise under which the Constitution has since endured, of giving each State equal representation in the Senate, while popular representation prevails in the House of Representatives.

Meanwhile, year by year, he was re-elected President of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In 1790, on April 17, his life ended in his eighty-fifth year. Four days later he was borne to his tomb by a procession and concourse of citizens estimated to number twenty thousand, among them "the printers of the city, with their journeymen and apprentices."

His Personality

In person Franklin was five feet nine inches in height, of athletic build, fond of exercise, with fair complexion, gray eyes, and features expressing serenity and mental power. His personality from boyhood until his death was entirely free from pose or affectation. "Affectation is the wisdom of fools and the folly of many a comparatively wise man." He was consistently democratic, maintaining the same demeanor with a crowned head as with an artisan, and equally "at home" with both. In conversation he was witty, and used many wise saws, proverbs and anecdotes. While refined in his manners, we gather that he was not finicky about the unrefinements of others around him. He avoided censure and anger.

Shallow commentators on his writings have succeeded in creating, among those who will not search out the truth for themselves, the illusion that Franklin was a penurious, hard-driving tradesman and office seeker, devoid of nobility of thought, and a utilitarian without spiritual aspirations. This is entirely erroneous. He sought the offices of Postmaster in Philadelphia and Clerk of the Assembly in his earlier business career, because they were helpful aids to his business of printing and publishing, but subsequent more important public employments were pressed upon him. In business he succeeded by giving his public superior service in printing and in his publications and by importing the best books available. He invested his profits in houses and lands. When he discovered ability among his apprentices and employees he made them partners in printing houses which he bought for them. The terms of partnership were fair and businesslike, Franklin accepting all risks. All his partners lived on terms of intimate friendship with him to the end of their lives. Thus he gradually accumulated a competency. He himself subsidized his scientific, philosophical, educational and patriotic undertakings. In the end, the United States owed him several thousand dollars, the payment of which he declined to press through a mass of red tape in which foolish persons had involved the transactions. At his death his estate was estimated to be one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, a third of it in real estate. His will is a great and wise document. By its provisions the citizens of Boston and Philadelphia continue to be largely benefitted—benefits which, if wisely managed, will continue as long as those cities exist.

His Unpretentiousness

Franklin made no bids for fame. None of his writings were conceived as literary performances. They were done for practical purposes, to further Franklin's utilitarian ideas and purposes. But he loved books; he read the best authors; he accumulated a library; he acquired style from contact with the work of literary stylists and used it unconsciously. He was not an eloquent speaker; used no grandiose periods and was reluctant to speak in public and did so only to guide a discussion or extricate it from confusion or misdirection. In an assembly his speeches, brief and

conversational in manner, were in effect the "court of last resort" preceding decision and action. He did not need rhetoric to make himself understood. Rhetoric is the ammunition of those whose talk ends in talk. He preferred to lead the people by means of printing. As a workman in London he issued his first pamphlet (an educational treatise), paying for the printing out of his journeyman's wage. As a master printer he issued and distributed gratuitously many educational pamphlets. Though he had brought lightning captive from the skies Franklin always kept his feet on the ground, strenuous for accomplishment, careless of the limelight.

Washington's Appreciation of Franklin

We see that Washington the soldier leaned heavily on Franklin the diplomat. "We must have one of two things—peace or money from France," was Washington's despairing cry in 1780; and Franklin provided the money, as by a miracle. Not a few of the patriots of the Revolution proclaimed their despair of victory, but Franklin never. Washington did not place himself above Franklin. The last letters which passed between these illustrious men emphasize their respect for each other. Franklin, himself living in excruciating pain, wrote to Washington to congratulate him on his recovery from a severe illness, saying: "I am now finishing my eighty-fourth year and probably with it my career in this life; but in whatever state of existence I am placed in the hereafter, if I retain my memory of what has passed here, I shall with it retain the esteem, respect and affection with which I have long been, my dear friend, yours most sincerely." And the majestic Washington replied with a eulogy no less earnest than deserved, and scarcely to be improved upon:

"Would to God, my dear Sir, that your existence might close with so much ease to yourself, as its continuance has been beneficial to our country and useful to mankind. . . . If to be venerated for benevolence, if to be admired for talents, if to be esteemed for patriotism, if to be beloved for philanthropy, can gratify the human mind, you must . . . know that you have not lived in vain. And I flatter myself that it will not be ranked among the least grateful occurrences of your life to be assured that you will be recollected with respect, veneration and affection by your sincere friend."



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
FROM THE PORTRAIT BY JOSEPH SIFFREDE DUPLESSIS
IN THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



FRANKLIN UNION BUILDING, BOSTON AND THE MILLS PAINTINGS

THE Mills pictures in the Franklin Union Building, Boston, merit first place in *The Pictorial Life of Benjamin Franklin*. These ten notable paintings of scenes in Franklin's life are reproduced in this book through courtesy of the Franklin Union, Walter B. Russell, Director. They represent the most truthful and inspiring series of historical paintings ever made of Franklin. Mr. Charles E. Mills devoted years of study to the life of Franklin and to the perfection of the details in these pictures. The costumes, buildings, furniture and other settings are historically correct.

The Union Building which is shown on this page is also important, for it was built as the result of a unique provision in Franklin's will which should be known to every American. He left 1,000 pounds each to Boston and Philadelphia, to be put at interest for 100 years. At the end of 100 years, he estimated that the sum in each city would amount to 131,000 pounds. At that time 100,000 pounds were to be taken out of each fund and put into "Public Works which may be judged of most general utility to the inhabitants." The remaining 31,000

pounds were to be continued at interest for another 100 years.

Franklin provided that the money was to be loaned to "young married artificers." In neither Boston nor Philadelphia did the sum at the end of the first 100 years amount to what Franklin had estimated. "Owing to changing industrial conditions," the fund in Boston has been cared for since 1836 by ordinary investment. It amounted to \$391,168.68 on July 1, 1891, at the end of the first 100 years. Of this amount, \$322,490.20 were devoted to the building and equipment of the Franklin Union. The balance of the Franklin Fund in Boston, which was to be left on interest another 100 years, now amounts to more than \$300,000. This is to continue at interest until 1991.

The Franklin Union is a Technical Institute conducting day and evening classes for men and women already at work, or preparing to enter modern industrial and engineering positions. The School was first opened in 1908 and has already reached more than 18,000 men in its classes. In every way it is just such a school as Franklin himself might have planned.



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FRANKLIN SELLING BALLADS ON THE STREETS OF BOSTON

THIS picture is the first in the series of ten mural paintings by Charles E. Mills in the Franklin Union Building, Boston. It shows Franklin at the age of 15, selling ballads in front of the Town House (Old State House) on Washington street. The bulletin board at the left on the side of the State House was where notices of the sailings of ships were then posted. The man and woman at the right are reading the titles of the books in the windows of John Checkley's book store. The Heart and Crown Printing Office is at the left of the coach going down Cornhill. The belfry of the Cedar Meeting House is seen in the distance.

"At that time," says Parton, "there was a great trade in street ballads, both in the colonies and the mother country. The exploits of pirates, the execution of murderers, the gallantry of highwaymen, shipwrecks, horrible crimes, and all events of great note were chronicled in doleful, doggerel ballads, which were hawked about in town and country."

As Franklin had a talent for making rhymes, his brother James, the printer, to whom he was apprenticed, persuaded him to write two ballads. These James printed and then sent Franklin about the town to sell them. One ballad was entitled "The Light-House Tragedy." The other described the capture of Blackbeard, a notorious pirate. It is said by Weems to have run as follows :

*Come all you jolly sailors,
You all so stout and brave,
Come hearken and I'll tell you
What happened on the wave.
Oh! 'tis of that bloody Blackbeard
I'm going now for to tell;
And as how by gallant Maynard
He soon was sent to hell
With a down, down, down, derry down.*

Franklin's father told him his ballads were "wretched stuff," and that he might better improve his prose style. Franklin saw the wisdom in this advice and wrote no more ballads.



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FRANKLIN, THE EDITOR

AT 17 years of age Franklin was editing *The New England Courant*, his brother's newspaper in Boston. At 23 he was editing his own newspaper in Philadelphia, the *Pennsylvania Gazette*. The *Gazette* was more ably edited than any other paper of that day, and far better printed. It soon became the most successful and powerful newspaper in the colonies.

James Parton says, "Franklin was the first to turn to great account the modern engine of advertising." Advertisements in the newspapers up to his time had consisted almost exclusively of notices of runaway servants, and sales of houses and lands. Franklin stocked his shop at the "new printing office near the market" with books, stationery, soap, lampblack, ink, rags, feathers, coffee, and various salves made by his mother-in-law. He advertised all these wares "profusely, skillfully and constantly" and with highly profitable results. Other tradesmen followed his example. Advertising in the *Gazette* increased until it reached from four to five pages a week, an amount unprecedented in the

colonies and probably in Europe. Franklin also originated the idea of distinguishing the advertisements with little pictures.

Franklin, the editor, published the first questions and answers in a newspaper. He wrote both the questions and answers. He is believed to have drawn the first newspaper cartoon, the picture of the snake, cut into sections to represent the thirteen colonies, with the "Join or Die" legend. And he is said to have been the first to attempt to illustrate a newspaper.

In addition to his newspaper, Franklin edited *Poor Richard: An Almanack*. This also was the most successful publication of its kind in the colonies. The edition was so large that he began printing it in October. The *Poor Richard Maxims* which he wrote for the almanac were a powerful influence in promoting thrift and industry in America, and they were circulated all over the world. Epes Sargent said in his biography of Franklin in 1853 "that they had been more often translated and printed than the work of any other American writer."



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FRANKLIN MAKING HIS KITE EXPERIMENT

HERE we see Franklin in a June thunder-storm in 1752 performing his famous and successful experiment with a kite. To avoid the ridicule of his neighbors, he stole away with his son, William, to a spot in the vicinity of what is now Seventeenth and Callowhill streets, Philadelphia, where there was a cow shed.

The world believed up to Franklin's time that lightning was caused by poisonous gases exploding in the air. Franklin began experimenting with electricity in 1746. He did not stumble upon his discovery. As Parton says, "It was a legitimate deduction from patiently accumulated facts." On November 7, 1749, he wrote out a series of 12 particulars in which the "electrical fluid agrees with lightning." He suggested the idea of fixing an iron rod on top of a high tower or steeple to draw the electricity from the clouds. There were then no towers or steeples in Philadelphia, so that he could not make this experiment himself. The use of the kite in place of a steeple was not tried by him until nearly three years later.

The importance of Franklin's electrical discoveries were quickly recognized in France. There the truth of his lightning theory was first demonstrated with a rod on a tower, just as he had directed. Franklin, however, had not yet received news of this when he flew his kite. The Royal Society of England, which had at first laughed at his theory, made amends by electing him a member, and by giving him the Copley Medal.

As a result of his scientific discoveries, Franklin became one of the most famous men in the world, years before the Revolution started. The success of his mission to France was in large measure due to the universal esteem in which he was held in that country. Parton says it was impossible to convince the French people that "Franklin was not the whole of the American revolution." M. Turgot gave true expression to the national feeling with his famous line, "Eripuit caelo fulmen, sceptrumque tyrannis" — "He snatched the lightning from the sky and the sceptre from tyrants."



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FRANKLIN'S FINAL HOME-COMING

After concluding the treaty of peace with England that secured the independence of the United States, Franklin left Passy, France, on the 12th of July, 1785, and arrived in Philadelphia on the 14th of September. He came home an old man, nearly 80 years of age, to perform his final great task with Washington in securing the adoption of our Constitution, and to spend the remaining four years of his life with his family. He had been sent across the sea three times on important missions for his province and his country. He had resided abroad more than 24 years in all—16 years in England as agent, first for the Pennsylvania Province, and later as agent also for New Jersey, Massachusetts and Georgia; and eight and one-half years in France in the service of the Continental Congress.

"Europe fixes an attentive eye on your reception of Dr. Franklin," Jefferson wrote to Congress. "He is infinitely esteemed. Do not neglect any mark of your approbation which you think proper. It will honor you here."

"With the flood in the morning," writes Franklin in his diary, "came a light breeze, which brought us above Gloucester Point, in full view of dear Philadelphia! when we again cast anchor to wait for the health officer, who, having made his visit, and finding no sickness, gave us leave to land. My son-in-law came with a boat for us; we landed at Market-Street Wharf, where we were received by a crowd of people with huzzas, and accompanied with acclamations quite to my door."

The aged philosopher, diplomat and statesman stands erect, hat in hand, to receive the greetings of the Philadelphians who crowded Market-Street Wharf. His son-in-law, Richard Bache, sits in the stern of the boat holding a strongbox. "In none of the series," says Louis A. Holman, "has Mr. Mills better shown the grandeur and dignity of Franklin. . . . The shouts of his neighbors and fellow-citizens meant far more to the old patriot than all the applause that had been given him so lavishly by the gay court of Louis XVI."

FRANKLIN, THE PRINTER

ALTHOUGH as a boy Franklin had some doubts about what he wanted to do, he came to love printing. He always described himself as "Benjamin Franklin, Printer." He learned the business thoroughly and had a great natural talent for it. At 12 he was apprenticed to his brother in Boston. At 17 he was working for Samuel Keimer in Philadelphia. He completed his journeyman experience at the famous printing offices of Palmer and Watts in London. On his return to America, he soon went to work again for Keimer. In 1728, when he was 22, he started in business for himself. He was ac-

tively engaged in printing but 20 years. During that time he accumulated a comfortable fortune. He retired at 42 to devote the remainder of his life to scientific study, and to "doing good." He took his foreman, David Hall into partnership. Hall conducted the business from 1748 until 1766, when Franklin's interest ceased. Franklin was both a compositor and a pressman. He could turn his hand to anything that was needed to keep the shop going. He repaired his presses, made his ink, and often made his type. But no doubt the greatest single quality that contributed to his success was his ability

to write. He knew how to use printing. He took a leading part in the life of his city and his province; and he was constantly getting out pamphlets on public questions of his day, and to promote the establishment of useful institutions—an academy, a fire engine company, a hospital, more paper money, the first militia in the Pennsylvania Province. Mr. Mills painted this picture showing Franklin at the press with all the accessories of an eighteenth century printing plant before him. The press is the identical machine Franklin worked in Watts, establishment in London.



FRANKLIN AS LIBRARIAN OF THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

DARTON says that libraries are nearly as ancient as books, but that "all the old libraries appear to have been like the old-fashioned wells, to which every one had to go who wanted water." Whether or not Franklin was the originator of subscription libraries, and of the idea of permitting books to be taken out, Parton would not assert positively, but he says, "I can discover no trace of either of these two fruitful conceptions before *his* time." In 1731, when he was 25 years of age, Franklin set on foot his project for a public library. He had previously suggested the idea of having the members of the Junto keep their books at the rooms where the club held its meetings. Now he followed this up with the plan for founding the Library Company of Philadelphia, and for which he secured the subscriptions. This was, as Franklin wrote in his lifetime, "the mother of all North American subscription libraries." All free public libraries in the English-speaking world have copied Franklin in the main features of the scheme which he originated, and owe their original inspiration to the Library Company of Philadelphia, which he founded. For three months Franklin acted as librarian of this library. He is shown by Mr. Mills in the center of the picture, glancing up from a book he has been examining to greet two strangers who have just entered the room.





FRANKLIN, THE SOLDIER, BUILDING FORT ALLEN

FRANKLIN first became interested in military matters in 1747 when Pennsylvania was threatened by French and Spanish privateers. No provision had been made for defense, because a majority of the people were Quakers, and from religious convictions were against the use of arms. He wrote and printed at this time a pamphlet entitled *Plain Truth* which explained the helplessness of the province, and urged the importance of a militia. As a result of this pamphlet, he secured 1200 enlistments at one meeting, and soon afterward 10,000. He was elected colonel of the Philadelphia regiment, but resigned in favor of another man.

Nearly seven and a half years later, in 1755, Braddock came over with two regiments of British regulars to fight the Indians. Braddock found it impossible to secure wagons to transport his supplies, and finally declared the expedition was at an end. Then he appealed to Franklin, who wrote an advertisement for him that brought in in two weeks' time the necessary 150 wagons. Franklin also warned Brad- dock against being ambushed by Indians.

After the defeat of Braddock, the British troops fled to Philadelphia. Franklin was immediately called upon to help save the colony. Indians were burning and killing. Settlements

were destroyed and families scalped within eight miles of Philadelphia. Franklin organized and took command of 560 men to defend the northwestern frontier. He marched in winter up the Lehigh Valley to Guadenhutten where a settlement had been completely destroyed. He built three forts in this vicinity and is shown in the picture superintending the construction of Fort Allen. He was 49 years of age at this time. Franklin's next military work was the construction of a valuable chevaux-de-frise in the Delaware to protect Philadelphia during the Revolution. He undertook this as chairman of the Committee on Safety.



Copyright The Franklin Foundation

FRANKLIN AT THE BAR OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

ONE of the great scenes in Franklin's life was his examination at the bar of the House of Commons in February, 1766, which brought about the repeal of the Stamp Tax. The Grenville ministry, which was responsible for the tax, had gone out, and the Marquis of Rockingham ministry, which was favorable to America, had come in. Such a storm had arisen in the colonies over the tax, and the merchants and manufacturers of England had made so many protests to the government over the loss of their American market, that the matter was taken up by Parliament and testimony for and against the measure given for six weeks at the bar of the House. Franklin was summoned as the chief witness for the colonies.

The most astute men of affairs in England asked searching questions intended to embarrass Franklin. His answers, says Smyth, "were so informing and illuminating, so indicative of extraordinary eminence of mind and character that Edmund Burke compared the scene to that of a schoolmaster being catechised by his pupils." George Whitfield, the great preacher, declared that Franklin "gained immortal honor by his behavior at the bar of the House." Sparks said, "No event in Franklin's life was more creditable to his talents and character or gave him so much celebrity as this examination before the House of Commons."

"An imperfect outline of the examination soon found its way into the American news-

papers," says Parton, "and made the name of Franklin dear to every patriotic heart." The painting by Mr. Mills in the Franklin Union, says Louis A. Holman, "is a remarkable example of an artist's truthfulness to historic detail. A scrutiny of it is like a visit in London in 1766." "For dimensions, proportions and architectural details," Mr. Mills "enthusiastically ransacked ancient descriptions, diagrams and engravings." Nearly every face in the picture is a copy of an actual portrait. George Greenville is questioning Franklin. Mr. Mills used the Martin portrait in painting the picture of Franklin, who was then 60 years of age. Edmund Burke is the first man in the second row at the left of Franklin.



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FRANKLIN SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

IT is appropriate in our best picture of the signing of the Declaration of Independence to see Franklin affixing his name to that famous document, for he was the Old Man of the Revolution, in age, in experience in public affairs, and in authority in all the councils of the patriots. The average age of the signers was about 40 years and Franklin was 70. He was the greatest man America had thus far produced. His reputation was world-wide. John T. Morse, Jr., says he "was the first man born on this side of the water who was 'meant for the universe.'" And his work and his advice were so important during this serious time that he was the one who was first called the "Father of His Country."

Once he had made up his mind that the colonies must fight, Franklin's hand seems to have been in nearly everything that was done. If he did not originally suggest the Continental Congress, he was, as Sargent says, "among its earliest approvers." The Battle of Lexington had been fought and the Second Continental

Congress was in session when he returned to America on May 5, 1775. He was immediately chosen a delegate by the Assembly in Pennsylvania. By the 21st of July, long before the majority in the Congress could agree with him or "see the wisdom in his purpose," he had submitted a sketch of a plan of union, the first to be presented to that body.

Franklin served on all the important committees appointed by Congress, entirely too numerous to mention. He was elected Postmaster-General; appointed to confer with Washington and to inspect the troops at Cambridge; planned the appeal for aid to France; appointed a commissioner to Canada; appointed on the committee to write the Declaration of Independence; sent to confer with Lord Howe; and appointed one of three commissioners to the Court of France. He was the only one to sign all four great papers that achieved our Independence—the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Alliance, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain, and the Constitution.

England knew all through the struggle with whom it was she had most to reckon. It was the Old Man of the Revolution at Passy that she watched, who was sending the money to America, who was leaguing all her enemies together, and who turned the judgment of the world against her. With him her great men corresponded. To him she offered a pension for life and a peerage. And to him finally she sent Oswald to make the peace.

Those who have visited Independence Hall, Philadelphia, will recognize the room and the furniture. The individuality of the faces and figures is equally faithful. John Hancock of Massachusetts is presiding. Thomas Jefferson of Virginia is seated at the right of the Speaker's chair. John Adams is seated at the left of the Speaker.

It was during the signing that Hancock said, "We must all hang together." To this Franklin immediately replied, "Yes, we must indeed hang together, or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately."



Copyright The Franklin Foundation

FRANKLIN SIGNING THE TREATY OF ALLIANCE WITH FRANCE

FRANKLIN arrived in Paris on his mission to the Court of France in December, 1776, but it was not until February 6, 1778, that he was able to sign the Treaty of Alliance. Although doing everything they could secretly to aid the colonies, the French did not decide to join in the war against England until after Burgoyne's Surrender. Many historians have described the wonderful reception Franklin received in France. His fame had preceded him. His character was more beloved and esteemed than that of any other man of his time. "Surely," says Smyth, "there never lived a man more idolized. Everything about him was imitated

the French had told him positively he could have no more money. France herself was at war and practically bankrupt. The Minister of Finance, Necker, fought every loan. And still the matchless diplomacy of Franklin triumphed. In the picture by Mr. Mills, Franklin is wearing his famous coat of spotted Manchester velvet. He put on for this occasion the same coat he had worn January 11, 1774, when he appeared before the Privy Council, and had submitted to the abuse of Wedderburn. The portraits, left to right, are: Franklin's grandson, M. Gerard who signed for the King, Franklin, Arthur Lee, and Silas Deane.

Advances in money totalling 26,000,000 francs were secured by Franklin from France. He made it possible to go on with the Revolution by honoring seemingly impossible drafts of Congress, again and again after



THE WILSON PORTRAIT

By Benjamin Wilson, 1759. Taken by Major André to England, 1777. Given to Gen. Grey. Presented by Earl Grey to the United States, 1906. Now in the White House.



MRS. DEBORAH FRANKLIN

"She proved a good and faithful helpmate, assisted me much by attending the shop; we threw together, and have ever mutually endeavored to make each other happy."



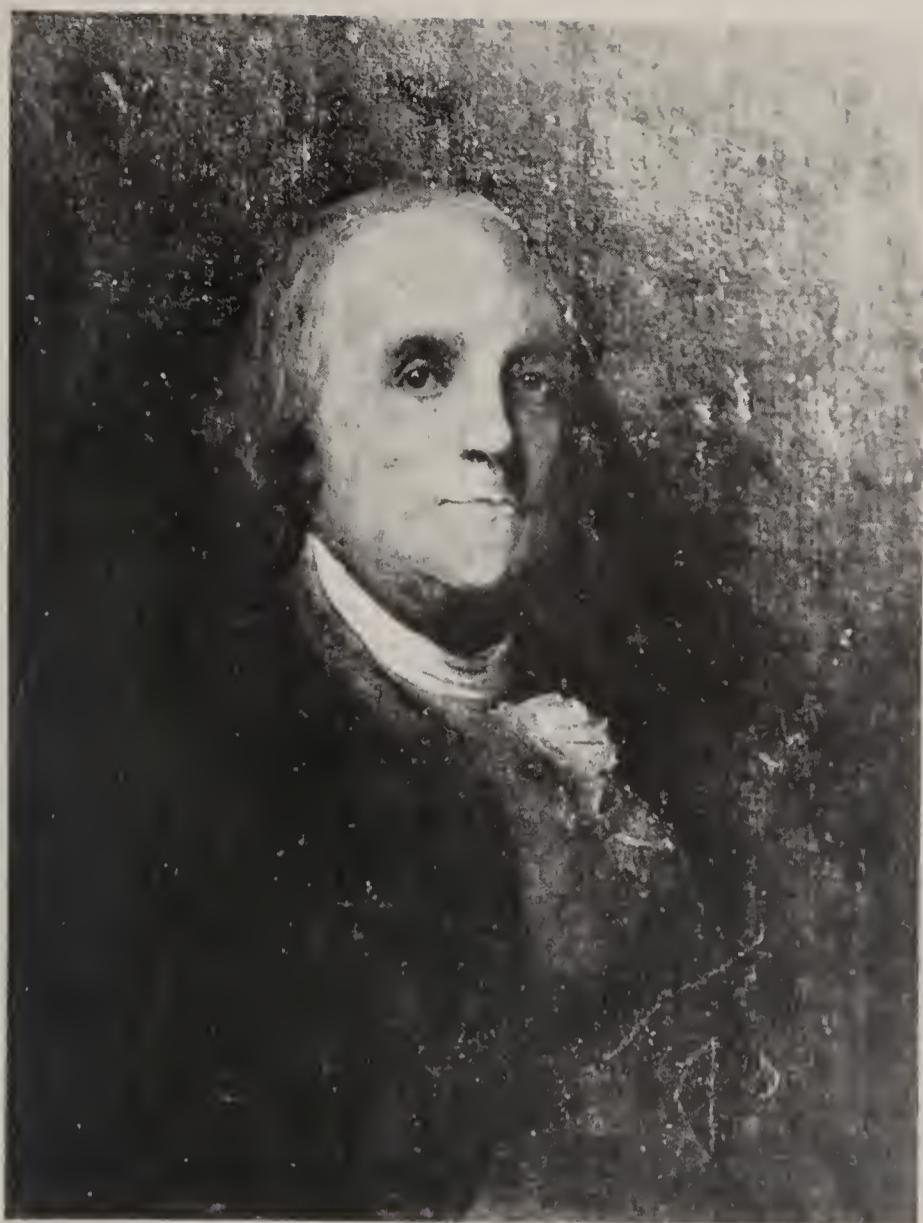
SARAH FRANKLIN BACHE

Daughter of Benjamin Franklin and wife of Richard Bache. Painted by John Hoppner. "Is extremely industrious with her Needle and delights in her Book."



WILLIAM FRANKLIN

By John Flaxman. Benjamin Franklin's son was the Royal Governor of New Jersey, and sided with the British against his father during the Revolution.



FRANKLIN IN EARLY MIDDLE AGE

An unpublished portrait, painter unknown, but which has always been in the possession of the family. Owned by Miss Mary and Miss Sarah Stockton of Princeton, N. J.



THE MARTIN PORTAIT

Painted by David Martin in 1767 when Franklin was 61 years of age. This is familiarly known as the "Thumb Portrait."



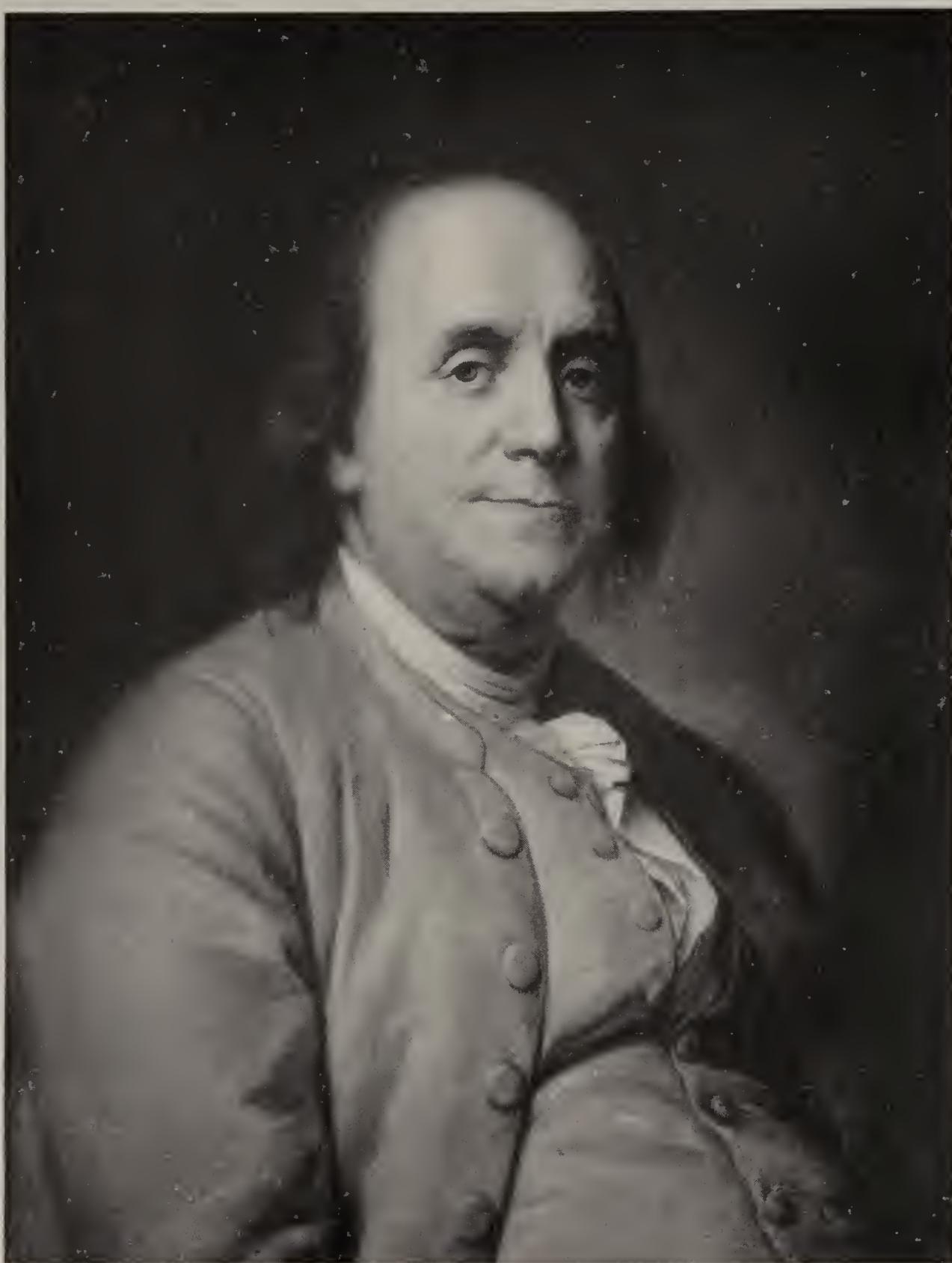
FRANKLIN AT TWENTY

This portrait by an unknown artist was painted in London. Its authenticity is doubted. The original is now in Memorial Hall, Harvard University.



THE WRIGHT PORTAIT

Painted by Joseph Wright in Paris, 1782. Now in the possession of the Royal Society, London. Wright, like Duplessis, painted several portraits of Franklin.



PORTRAIT IN PASTEL BY J. S. DUPLESSIS, 1783
Presented by John Bigelow to the New York Public Library. Reproduced through Courtesy of the Library.

Epitaph written 1728.
The Body of
B Franklin Printer,
(Like the cover of an old Book
Its Contents torn out
And short of its Lettering & Gilding)
Serves, Food for Worms.
But the Work shall not be lost;
For it will, (as he believes) appear once more,
In a new and more elegant Edition
Revised and corrected.
By the Author.

FRANKLIN'S EPITAPH

Written by Franklin in his own handwriting when he was 22. Many people think this ought to be placed in bronze beside his grave.



THE CHAMBERLIN PORTRAIT

By Mason Chamberlin, 1760-62. The Duplessis and Chamberlin portraits were Franklin's favorites.

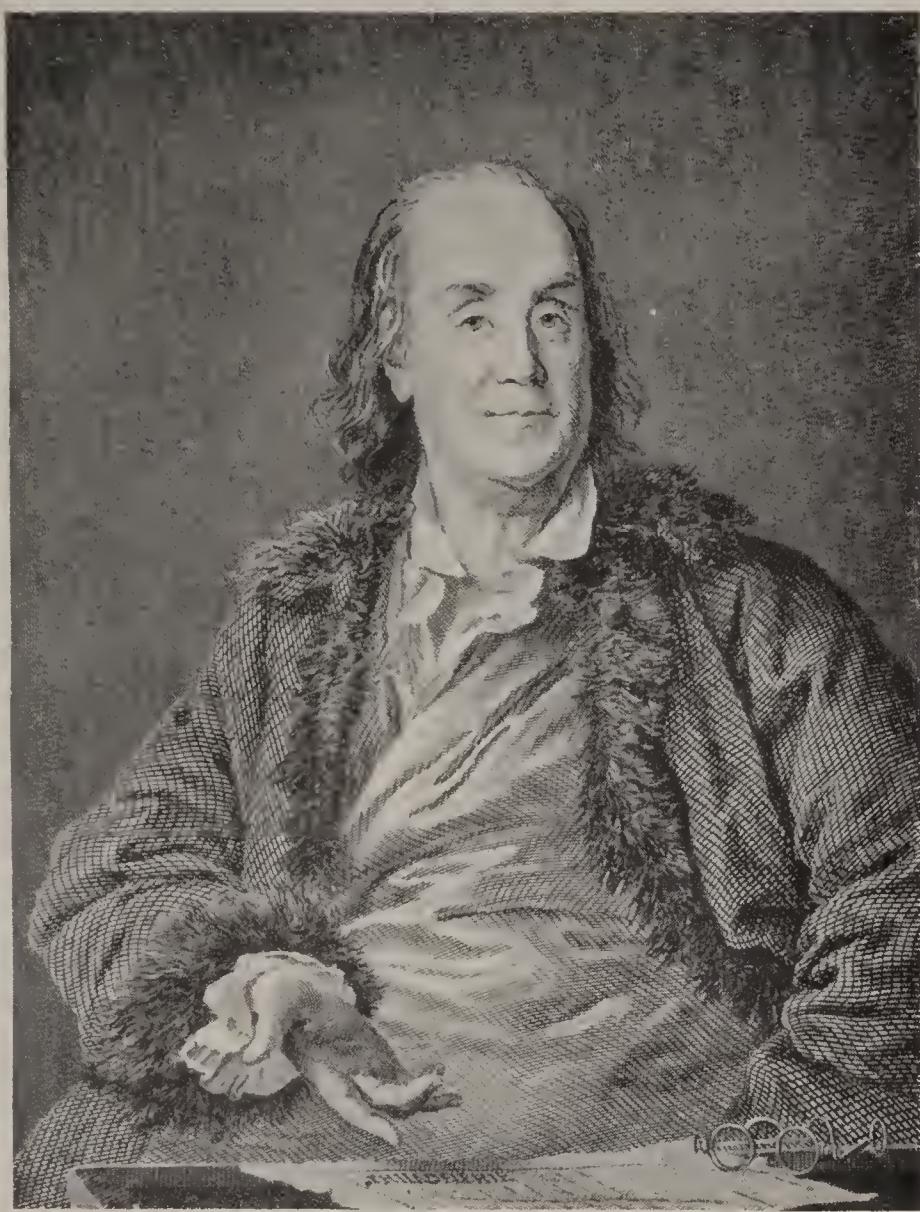
Philad July 5 1775
W^r Strahan,

You are a Member of Parliament,
and one of that Majority which has
doomed my Country to Destruction—
—You have begun to burn our Towns
and murder our People. — Look upon
your Hands¹ — They are stained with the
Blood of^{your} Relations¹ — You and I were
long Friends — You are now my Enemy
— and

I am, Yours,
B Franklin

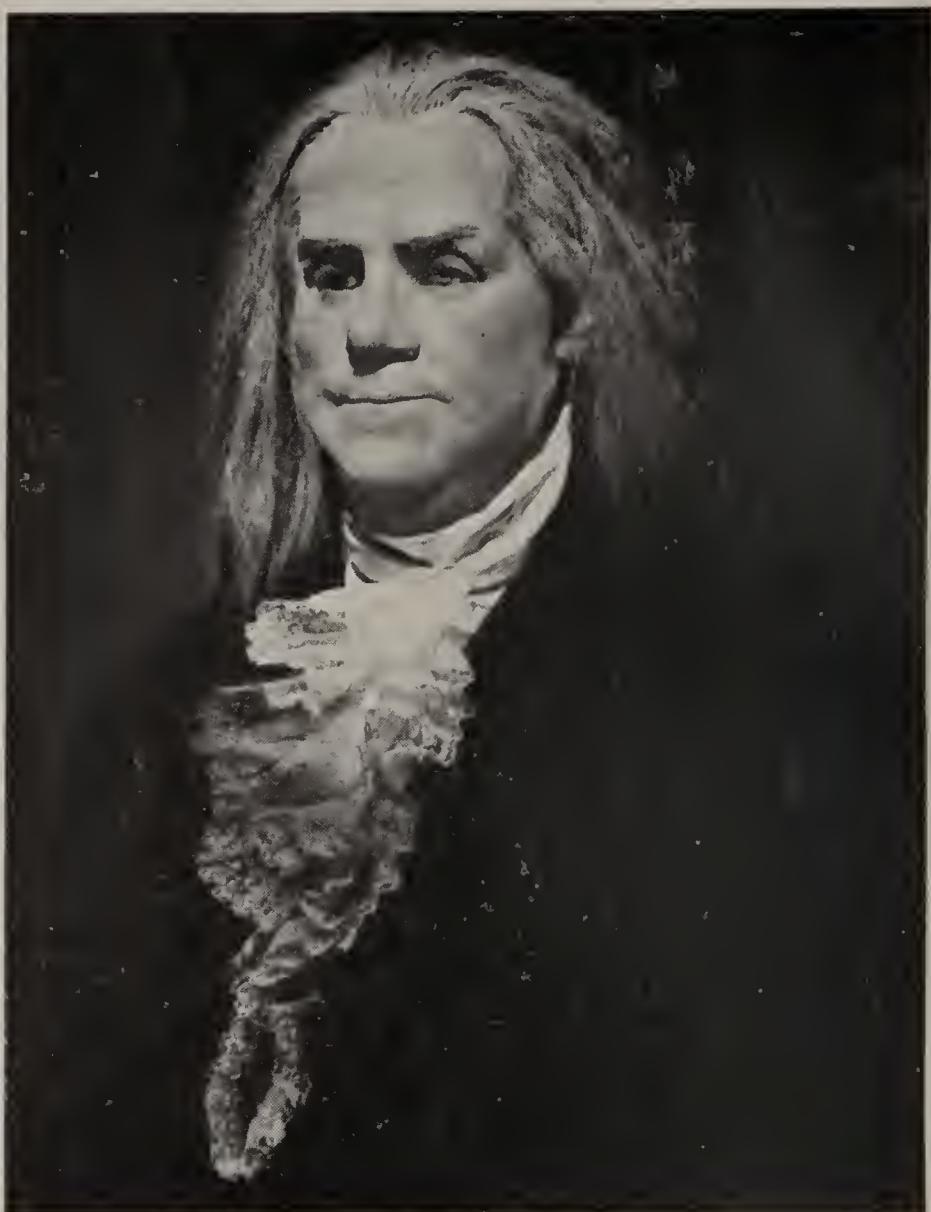
LETTER TO STRAHAZ

William Strahan was a member of Parliament and King's printer.
He and Franklin were warm friends. This letter
was never mailed.



THE FILLEUL PORTRAIT

Painted in 1778 by Madame Filleul in France. Original is lost and reproduction here is from an old print.



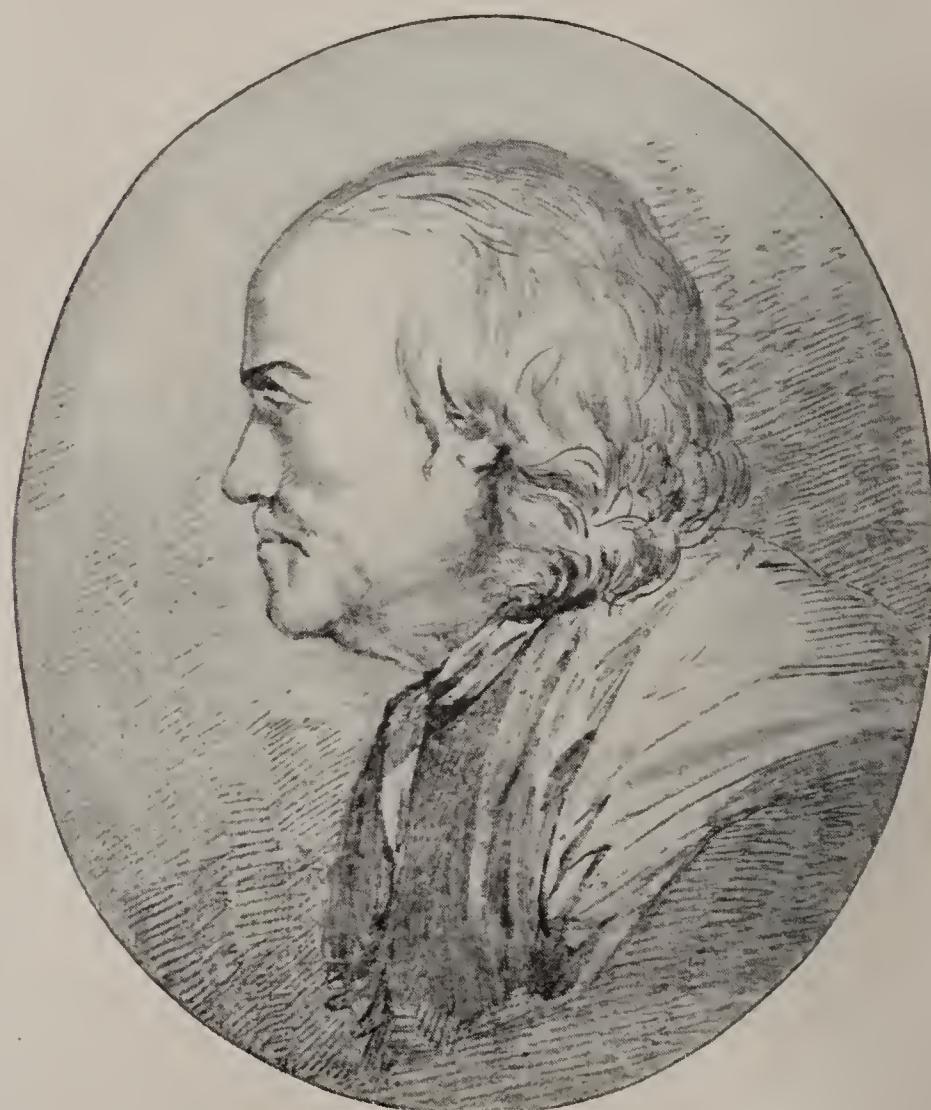
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN IN WAX

This life size wax figure in Madame Tussaud's Exhibition, London, was modelled from life in Paris, in 1783, by Christopher Curtius, an uncle of Madame Tussaud.



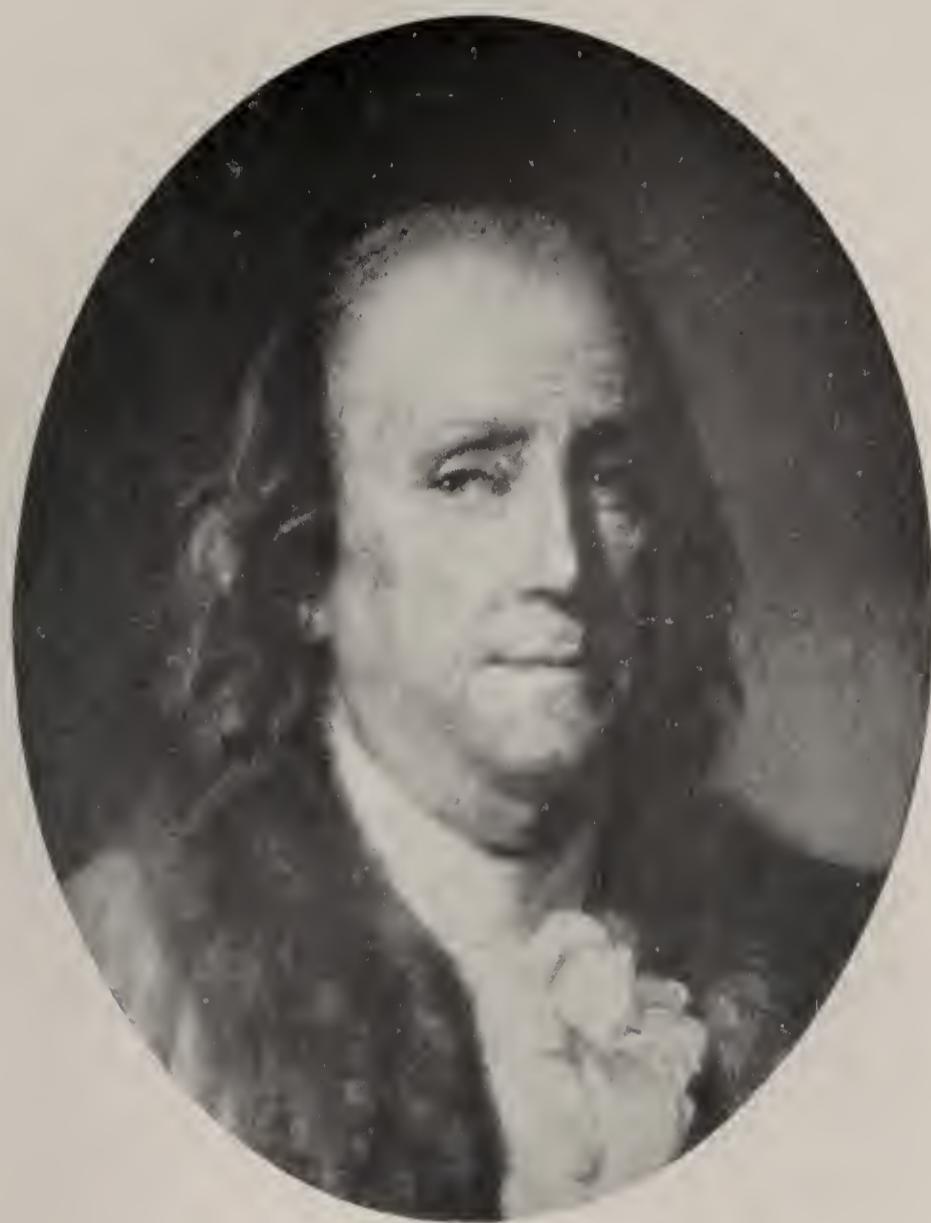
COCHIN PORTRAIT

Drawn by Charles Nicholas Cochin in France in 1777. Known as the "Fur Cap Portrait." The original has been lost. The reproduction here is made from an old print.



PORTRAIT BY BENJAMIN WEST

This drawing was owned up to the time of his death by Ex-Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker of Pennsylvania.



THE GREUZE PORTRAIT

This pastel portrait was painted by Jean Baptiste Greuze in 1777. The Boston Public Library owns a portrait of Franklin attributed to Greuze.



THE PEALE PORTRAIT

This picture in the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts was painted in 1787 by Charles Willson Peale, and is the last portrait painted of Franklin. A similar portrait by Peale belongs to The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



RENAUD'S PENCIL DRAWING

From a pencil drawing by Jean Martin Renaud, in the W. H. Huntington collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.



THE CARMONTELLE PORTRAIT

From an old print. This drawing by Louis Carrogis, called Carmontelle, was made about 1780 in France.



THE PATIENCE WRIGHT PORTRAIT

This profile was modelled in wax about 1772 by Mrs. Patience Wright, mother of Joseph Wright, who painted a portrait of Franklin.



THE PRATT PORTRAIT

By Matthew Pratt. With the exception of the portrait of Franklin at twenty, this is believed to be the earliest likeness made. It was painted about 1756.



THE FRAGONARD PORTRAIT

Jean Honore Fragonard, whose allegory of Franklin is reproduced elsewhere, was a friend and admirer of the "American Socrates." The history of this portrait is not known.



THE L' HOSPITAL PORTRAIT

This portrait was painted by J. F. De L'Hospital in Paris in 1779 for Franklin's friend, Count St. Morys. It now belongs to the University of Pennsylvania.



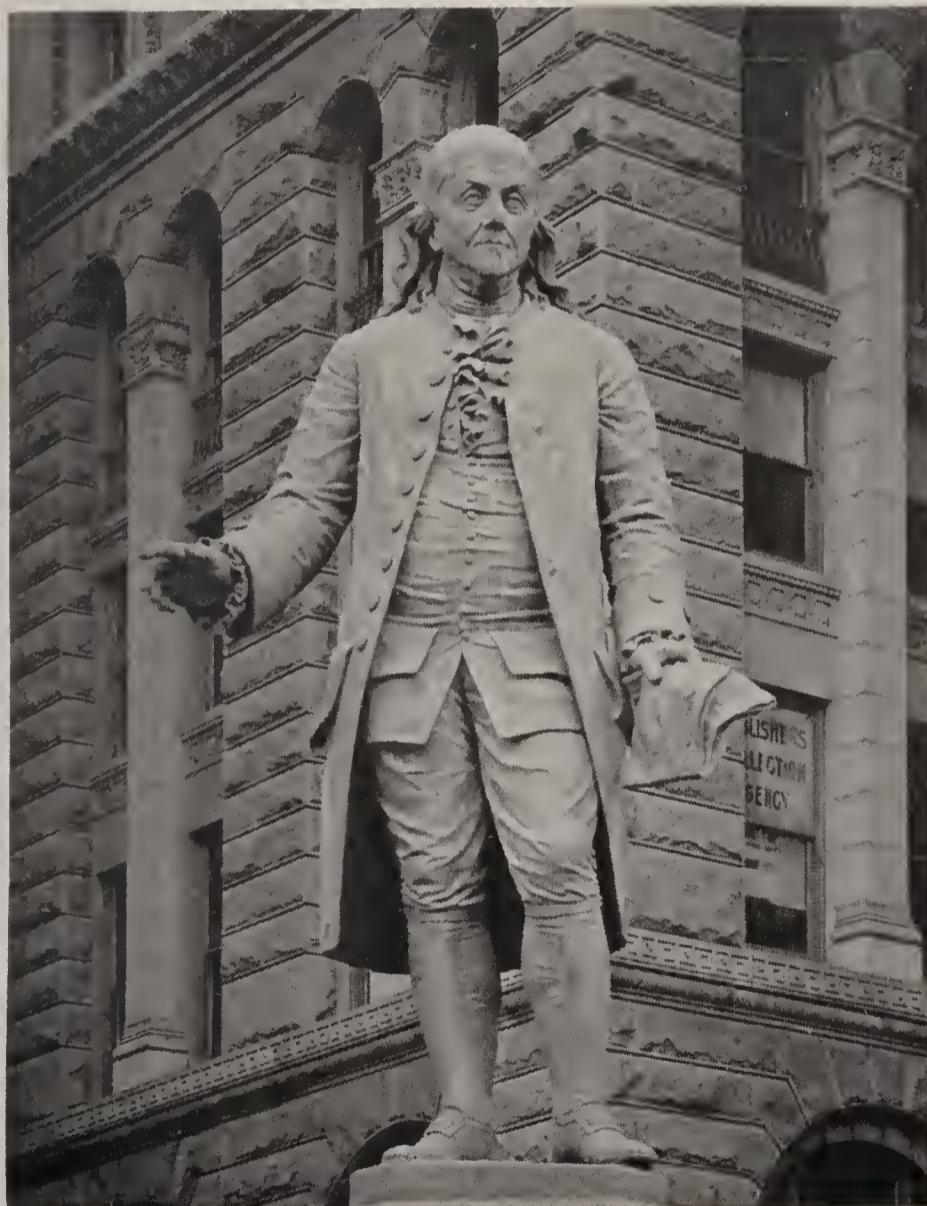
THE CHICAGO STATUE

This statue in Lincoln Park, by R. H. Park, was given to Chicago in 1896 by Joseph Medill. Photograph copyrighted, Underwood & Underwood.



IN THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON

This marble statue, by Hiram Powers, stands in the Senate Extension of the National Capitol. Unveiled in 1863. A replica is in New Orleans. Copyright, Harris & Ewing.



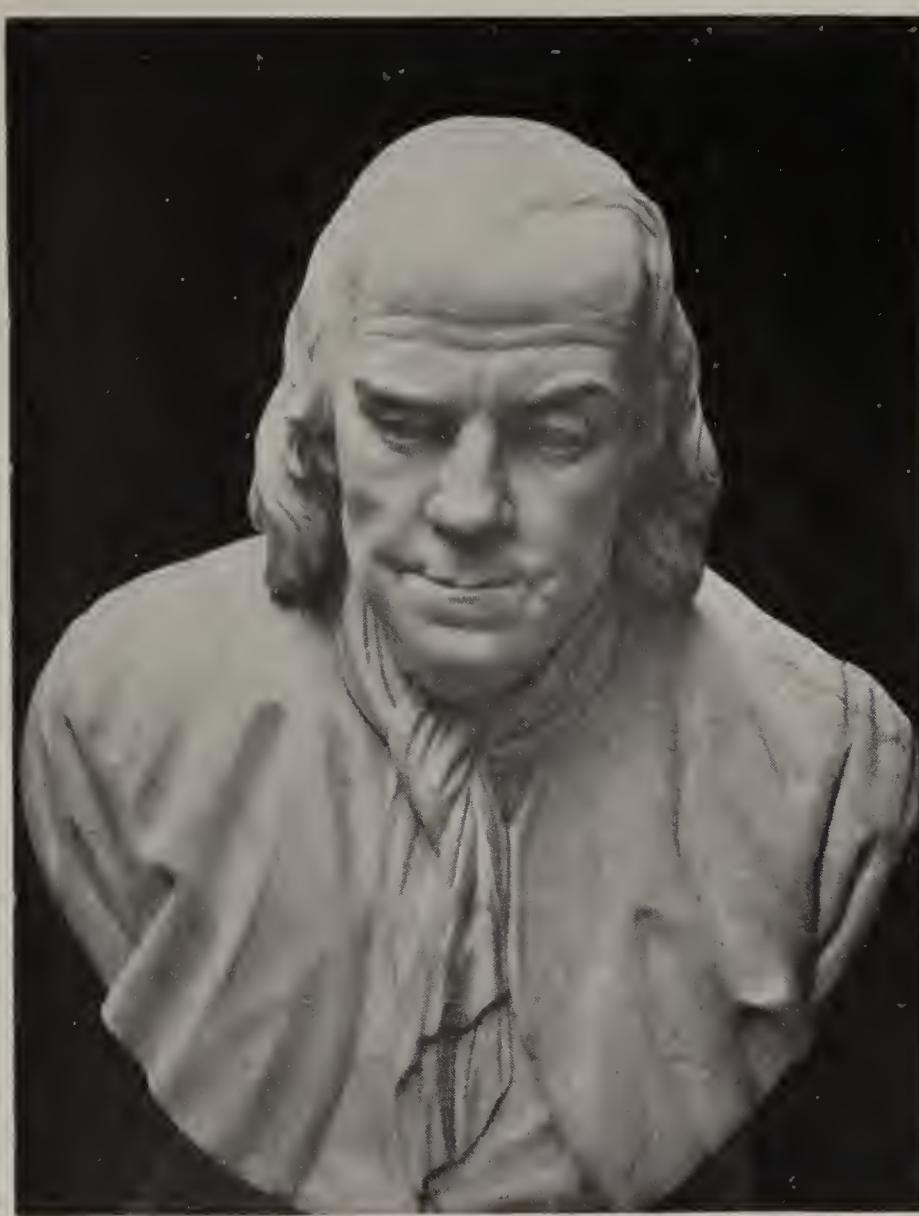
THE NEW YORK STATUE

By Ernest Plassman. This statue, given by Captain Albert DeGroot, stands in Printing House Square. Unveiled in 1872.



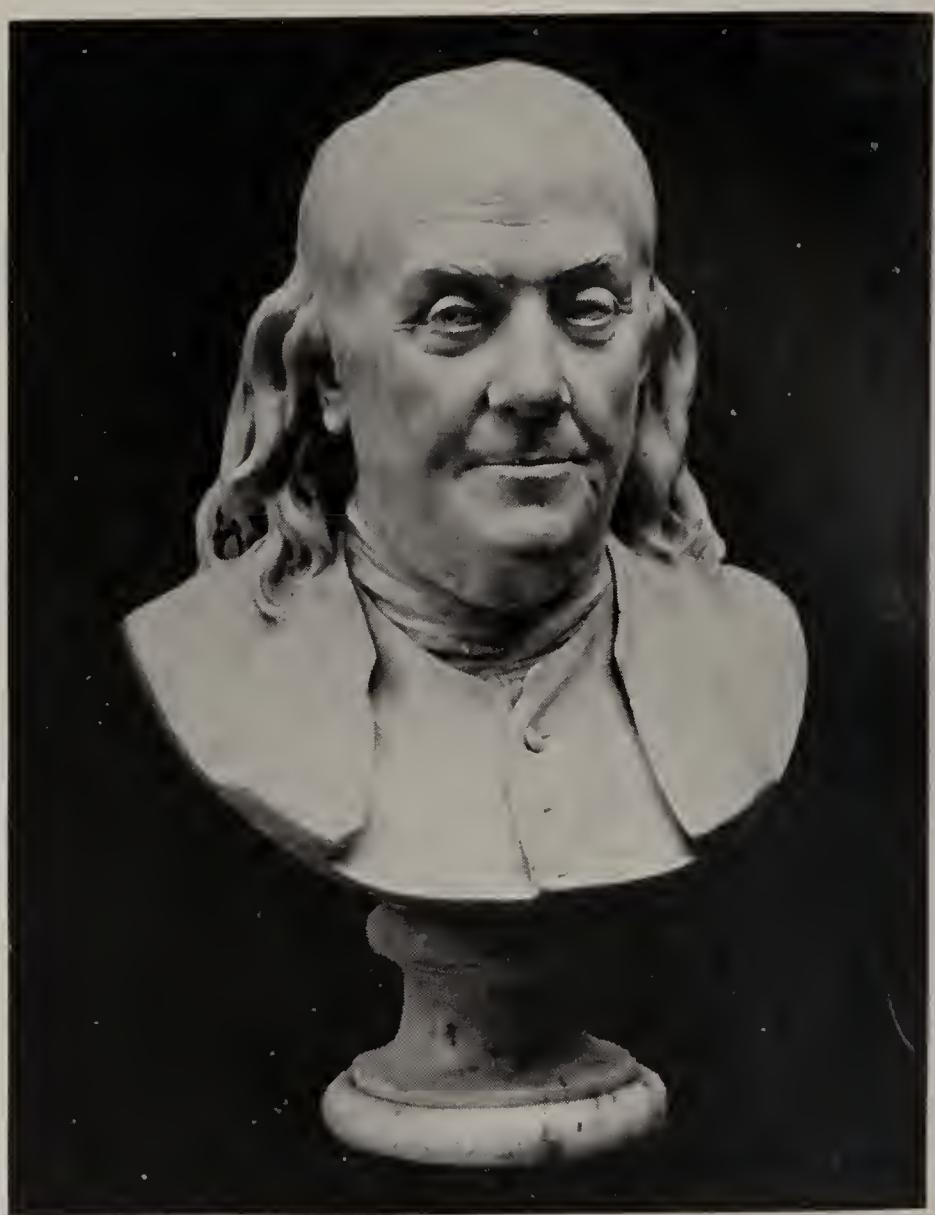
THE WASHINGTON STATUE

By Ernest Plassman. This statue, at Pennsylvania Avenue and 16th Street, was the gift of Stilson Hutchins. Unveiled in 1889. Copyright, Harris & Ewing.



THE CAFFIERI BUST

Modelled by Jean Jacques Caffieri in France about 1784. This and the bust by Houdon are the most important works of sculptors ever made of Franklin.



THE HOUDON BUST

This was modelled in Paris in 1778, by the celebrated sculptor, Jean Antoine Houdon. This and the portrait by Duplessis are the best known likenesses of Franklin.



THE WATERBURY STATUE

This statue by Paul Wayland Bartlett is in Waterbury, Conn. Erected in 1921. Statue was cast in Baltimore and exhibited in Philadelphia, New York, Boston and other cities.



THE WORLD'S FAIR STATUE

This statue by Carl Rohl-Smith, was at the World's Fair in Chicago, 1893. A somewhat similar work, by J. J. Boyle was at the St. Louis Exhibition in 1904. Neither has been preserved.



THE PHILADELPHIA STATUE

BY JOHN J. BOYLE. THIS STATUE STANDS ON CHESTNUT STREET IN FRONT OF THE POST OFFICE. IT WAS UNVEILED IN 1899, THE GIFT OF JUSTUS C. STRAWBRIDGE.
A REPLICA IS IN PARIS, HAVING BEEN PRESENTED TO THAT CITY IN 1906 BY M. J. H. HARJES



UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA STATUE

THIS SHOWS FRANKLIN, THE FOUNDER OF THE UNIVERSITY, AT 17 YEARS OF AGE
ENTERING PHILADELPHIA. STATUE MODELLED BY DR. R. TAIT MCKENZIE.
PRESENTED TO THE UNIVERSITY BY THE CLASS OF 1904



FRANKLIN STATUETTE

Attributed to Jean Baptiste Nini by John Bigelow. This small statuette is of composition, painted, and the hair is said to be from Franklin's own head.



BRONZE STATUETTE

Height about fifteen inches. This was made in France about 1780. Artist unknown. One of many statuettes made of Franklin while he was in France.



FRANKLIN EXPERIMENTING

The figure of Franklin, which is about nine inches high, and the table are composed of painted plaster and wood, and stand on a base of inlaid wood. Made in France about 1780.



LOUIS XVI, AND BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

By LeMire. Statuette from the W. H. Huntington Collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Shows Franklin and Louis negotiating the Treaty of Alliance.



FRANKLIN'S GRAVE

In Old Christ Church Burial Ground, Fifth and Arch Streets, Philadelphia. The Poor Richard Club of Philadelphia wishes to put Franklin's own epitaph in bronze beside the grave.



FRANKLIN'S PRESS

The identical press on which Franklin worked as an apprentice to his brother. Owned by the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, Boston.



GRAVE OF FRANKLIN'S PARENTS

In the Old Granary Burying Ground, Boston. This memorial was erected by citizens of Boston in 1827 to replace the original slab put up by Franklin in 1754.

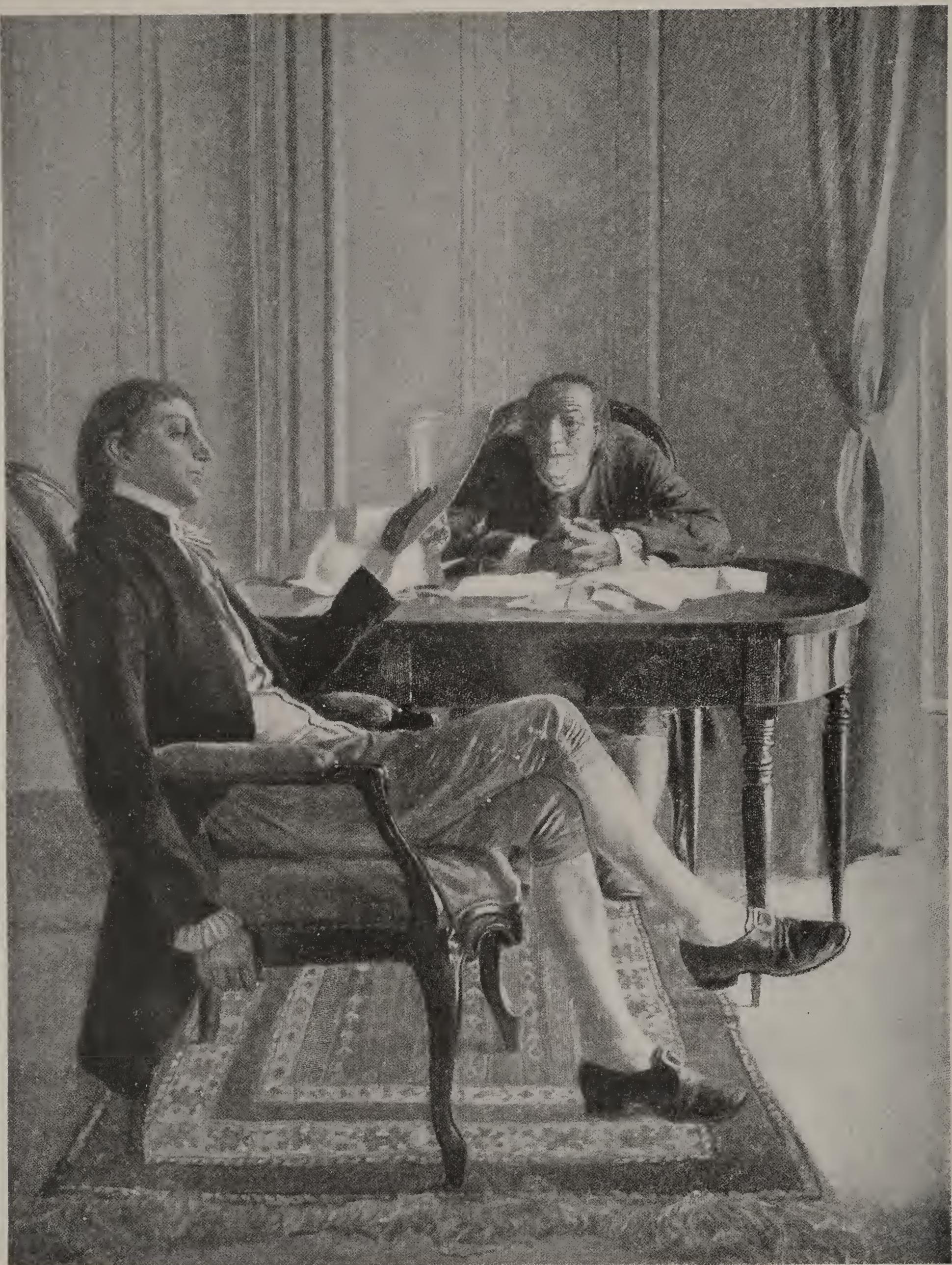


FRANKLIN'S BIRTHPLACE

This house stood on Milk street, Boston, near the Washington street corner, and directly opposite the Old South Church. Franklin was born on a Sunday and his father carried him the same day across the street to the church and had him baptized, "dedicating the tithe of his sons to the service of the church."



STATUE IN FRONT OF CITY HALL, BOSTON
BY RICHARD S. GREENOUGH. UNVEILED IN 1856 WITH ONE OF THE GREATEST
CELEBRATIONS EVER HELD IN BOSTON



TREATY OF PEACE WITH ENGLAND

PAINTED BY HOWARD PYLE. SHOWS FRANKLIN AND RICHARD OSWALD, THE BRITISH
COMMISSIONER, DISCUSSING THE TERMS OF THE TREATY

COPYRIGHT CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS. USED WITH PERMISSION



FRANKLIN ON THE STREETS OF PARIS

PAINTED BY HOWARD PYLE. MEN DOFFED THEIR HATS TO THE "GOOD, AGED DOCTOR" WHENEVER HE APPEARED ON THE STREETS OF PARIS

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THE CONGRESS VOTING INDEPENDENCE

Painted by Robert Edge Pine and Edward Savage. Pine died in 1788, leaving the picture unfinished, and it was completed by Savage. Franklin is seated, with his face seen in profile, near the center of the painting. Reproduced through courtesy, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.



THE COPELEY MEDAL

Bestowed upon Franklin in 1753 by the Royal Society of England for his electrical discoveries. The Royal Society had unanimously elected him a member the year before.



FRANKLIN AT THE COURT OF FRANCE

Painted by Andre E. Jolly. Franklin did not wear court dress when he appeared before Louis XVI. He wore no wig, carried no sword, and did not carry his hat under his arm (a chapeau bras.) His dress consisted of a suit of plain black velvet, white silk stockings, and silver buckles.



SNUFF BOX PRESENTED TO FRANKLIN BY LOUIS XVI

This relic is mentioned in the will of every generation of the Franklin family down to the mother of the present owner, Professor W. B. Scott of Princeton University, a great, great, great grandson of Franklin, through whose courtesy it was photographed for this book.



TREATY OF PEACE WITH ENGLAND

An unfinished painting by Benjamin West. This does not show Richard Oswald and the other English Commissioners. Left to right, Jay, Adams, Franklin, Laurens, and Franklin's grandson.



MEDAL TO COMMEMORATE THE REVOLUTION

By Augustin Dupré. "In 1782," says Paul Leicester Ford, "of his own volition and at his own charge, he had struck after his ideas a medal to commemorate the Revolution."



SIGNING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Painted by John Trumbull and in the rotunda of the Capitol at Washington. This painting is not at all historically accurate, as is the one previously shown of this scene, painted by Charles E. Mills and in the Franklin Union Building, Boston. Copyright, Harris & Ewing.



FRANKLIN MEDAL

Designed by R. Tait McKenzie for The Franklin Institute of Philadelphia. Awarded annually by The Institute for distinguished work in physical science.



THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BENEFICIARY OF FRANKLIN'S WILL

IN 1908, in compliance with the provisions of Franklin's will, a sum of \$133,076.46 was set aside by the Board of City Trusts of Philadelphia for the purpose of assisting in the erection of a building for the use of The Franklin Institute. The Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts was organized in 1824. The corner stone of its present building was laid on June 8, 1825.

Weekly lectures on scientific and technical subjects are given throughout the winter season. Monthly meetings are held at which recent discoveries in physical science and important engineering achievements are discussed. The Journal of the Franklin Institute has been published monthly since 1826. The Library, devoted solely to works on Physical Science and Technology, now numbers 77,960 volumes and 20,431 pamphlets. The Committee on

Science and the Arts examines and reports upon all new and useful machines, inventions, and discoveries submitted to them. Twenty-eight exhibitions of American manufactures have been held under the auspices of the Institute, and the first electrical exhibition in this country was held in the autumn of 1884.

Recently the Institute received a bequest of approximately \$1,500,000.00 from the late Henry W. Bartol, a retired manufacturer of Philadelphia, who died on December 19, 1918. This fund, known as the "Bartol Research Foundation," will be used for the conduct and direction of researches relating to fundamental problems in physical science, particularly those in the field of electricity, and for the investigation of specific problems of a scientific nature which arise in the industries. A laboratory is now being equipped and will be in operation early in the coming year.



FRANKLIN, WILLIAM PENN AND ROBERT MORRIS
CENTRAL GROUP IN "THE APOTHEOSIS OF PENNSYLVANIA," A MURAL PAINTING BY
EDWIN A. ABBEY IN THE STATE CAPITOL AT HARRISBURG
COPYRIGHT M. G. ABBEY AND BY CURTIS AND CAMERON, BOSTON



MIRABEAU CROWNED BY FRANKLIN (Allegory)

By Jean Michel Moreau. Mirabeau, arriving in the Elysian Fields, is about to be crowned by Franklin. Rousseau (seated), Voltaire, Demosthenes, Cicero, and other famous men are included.



THE TOMB OF VOLTAIRE (Allegory)

In front of the tomb are personified the four quarters of the globe—Europe by D'Alembert, Asia by Catharine II of Russia, Africa by Prince Oronoco, and America by Franklin. They are opposed by Ignorance.



THE APOTHEOSIS OF FRANKLIN (Allegory)

By Jean Honore Fragonard. Franklin with America seated beside him opposes the shield of Minerva to the lightning, and commands the God of War to fight against Avarice and Tyranny.



DR. FRANKLIN CROWNED BY LIBERTY

By J. C. R. St. Non. The Genius of Liberty is crowning with laurel wreaths, a bust of Franklin placed upon the globe, on which may be seen the map of America.



DISCOVERING LIGHTNING IS ELECTRICITY

By Benjamin West. Franklin with his right hand is testing the electric spark from a key which is suspended on the string of a kite flying in an electric storm.



FRANKLIN AND DIOGENES (Allegory)

Diogenes is leaning over the portrait, holding his lantern in the left hand while with the right he calls attention to the portrait of the honest man.

FRANKLIN AT HOME

Painted by Henry Bacon. Shows Franklin in old age in his garden conversing with his friends. Painted from an account of a visit to Franklin by Dr. Manasseh Cutler, July 13, 1787. Mrs. Bache (his daughter Sarah) served tea to the company.





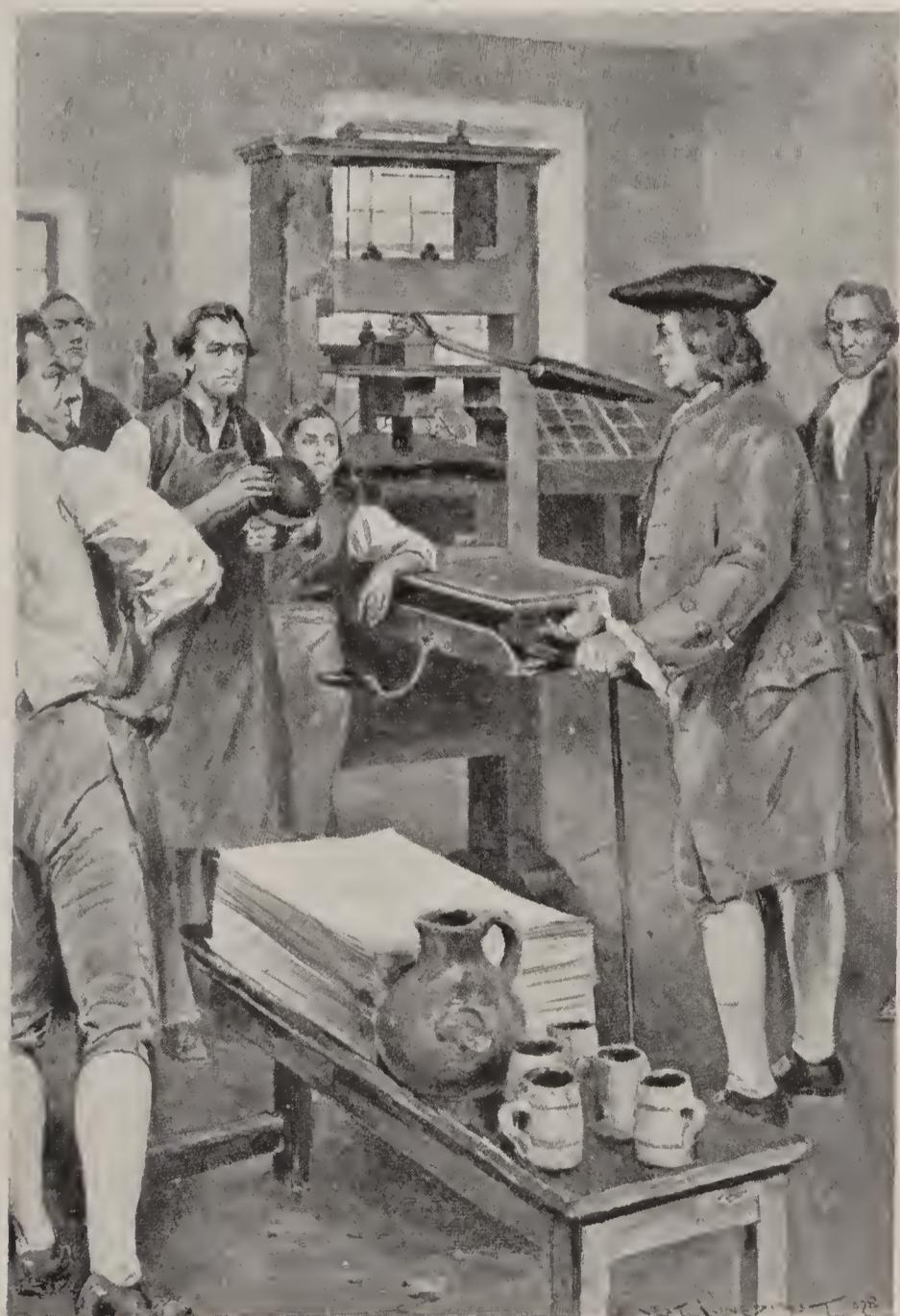
DRAFTING THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

From an old engraving. This shows the Committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence—Franklin, Jefferson, Adams, Livingston, and Sherman.



THE YOUNG FRANKLIN

Shows Franklin working a press in his brother's shop in Boston. Painted by E. Wood Perry. The original of this picture is owned by Buffalo Academy of Fine Arts.



SUCCESS TO PRINTING

Franklin revisiting Watts' Printing-House, London, where he had formerly worked. Used by permission, copyright by The Century Company. Painted by B. West Clinedinst



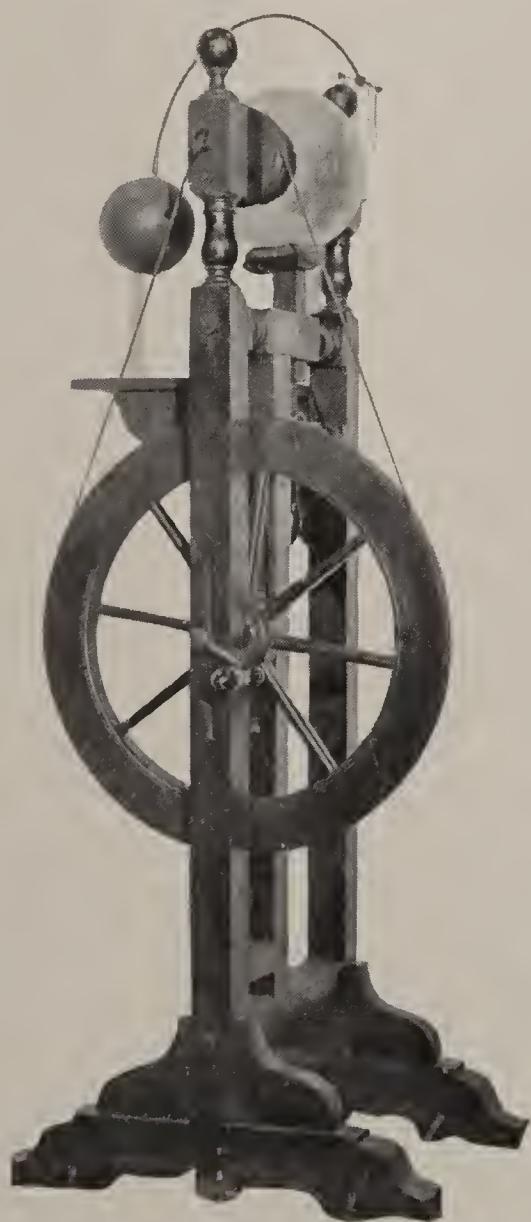
"THE PUBLIC LEDGER" STATUE

This statue by Joseph A. Bailly was cut from Brunswick stone and is ten feet, six inches high. It was placed on the "Ledger" building in Philadelphia in 1867.



FRANKLIN'S HARMONICA (ARMONICA)

This is the musical instrument invented by Franklin, and the identical machine "with which a thousand times he delighted his guests in Philadelphia, London and Paris." It was photographed through the courtesy of its owner, Mrs. Malcolm MacLaren of Princeton, N. J. The treadle only is missing.



FRANKLIN'S ELECTRICAL
MACHINE

He generated the electricity with this machine for some of his most important experiments. Picture contributed by The Franklin Institute.



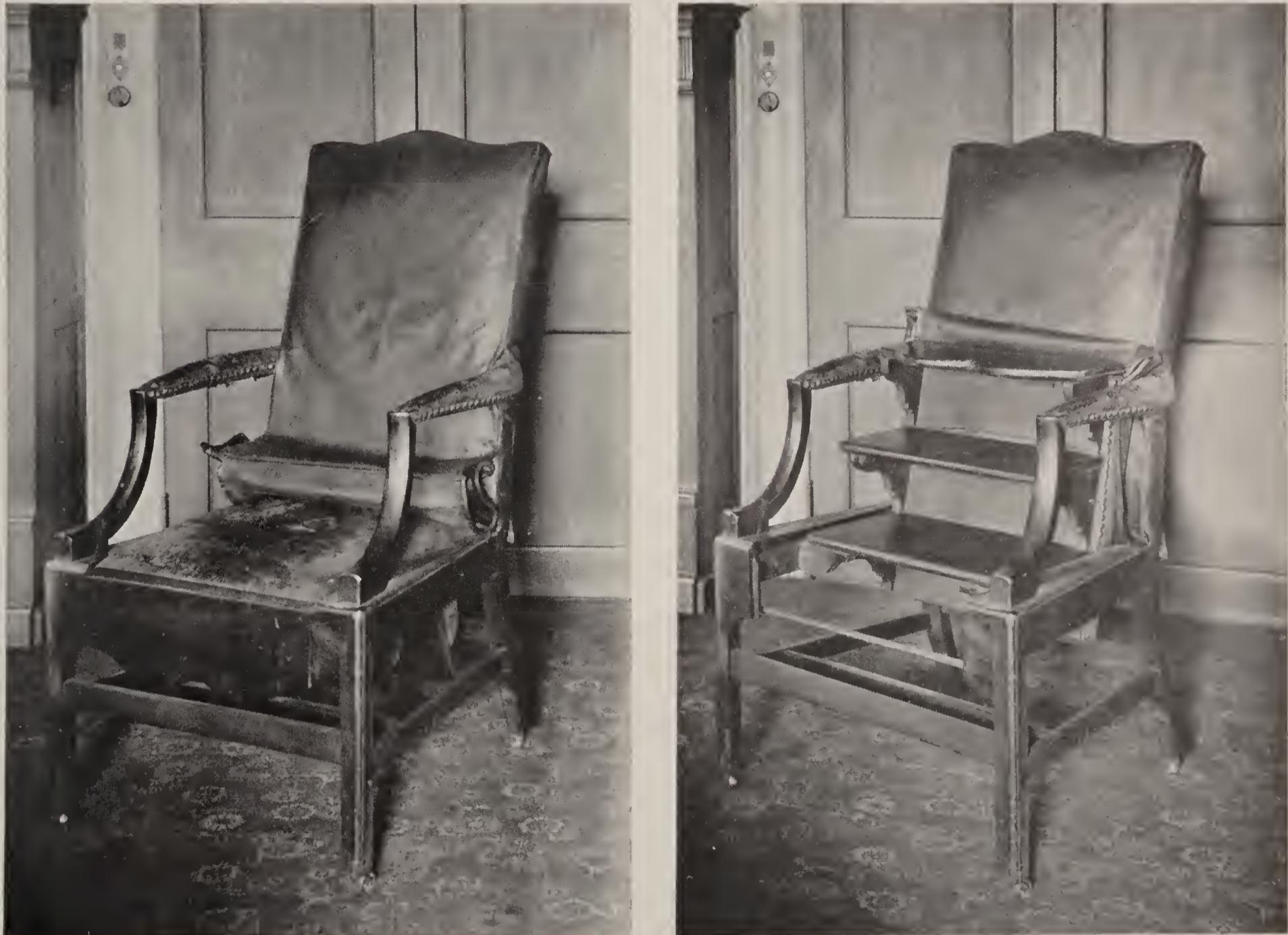
FRANKLIN'S CHAIR

This has an extended arm on which to write. Photographed through courtesy of the University of Pennsylvania.



MODELS OF THE FRANKLIN STOVE (PENNSYLVANIA FIREPLACE)

These models are in the possession of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, which Franklin founded. They are all said to have been made by Franklin.



FRANKLIN'S LIBRARY CHAIR

This is the chair Franklin invented to use in his library. By turning up the seat it became a step-ladder. Original chair in the possession of the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.



INSPECTION OF THE CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE

This picture shows Franklin and Washington together at Cambridge, Mass. Franklin was appointed by the Continental Congress as a member of a committee to visit Washington at Cambridge and to inspect the camp there. Drawn by B. West Clinedinst. Used by permission, copyright Charles Scribner's Sons.



MONEY DESIGNED BY FRANKLIN

Two examples of Continental Paper Money designed by Franklin. He reproduced leaves of trees on the back with their veining to prevent counterfeiting. Franklin also designed, engraved and printed paper money for many of the colonies years before the Revolution.



THE "WATER AMERICAN"

From a woodcut reproduction of a painting by Eyre Crowe, R.A. It shows Franklin in Watts' Printing Office with his fellow-workers drinking ale while he drank only water. Reproduced through the courtesy of George W. Jones, at the Sign of The Dolphin, in Gough Square, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.



CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL

By Louis St. Gaudens. Struck by order of Congress in 1906 in Commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Benjamin Franklin, "Printer, Philosopher, Scientist, Statesman, Diplomatist."

Pennsylvania GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestick.

recognizable, has rightly adopted the *Contingent* *Offer* as the best mode of *negotiation*. The price a Publisher having received the following Piece, desires the Readers to accept of it as a *Prize* to what they may be entitled meet with in this Paper.



Persons formerly esteemed some of the most sweet and noble, is too well known here, to need any further Proof or Representation of the Matter. No generous and impartial Person then can blame the present Undertaking, which is effected purely in the interest of our Country, and of the Empire to our Government, as our Doc-

for the Diversion and Merriment of the Reader. Pieces of Pleasantry and Mirth have a fitter Charn in them to aay the Hearts and Tutors of our Spirits, and to make a Man forget his Master's Representments. They have a Strange Power to cure the harsh Disorders of the Soul, and reduce us to a serene and placid State of Mind.

The main Design of this Weekly Paper will be to entertain the Town with the most comical and diverting Incidents of Human Life, which is to large a Place as *St. George* will not fail of a universal Exemplification: Nor shall we be wanting to fill up these Papers with a Grateful Interposition of more serious Morals, which may be drawn from the most judicious and odd Parts of Life.

As for the Author, that is the next Question. But who we *profess* ourselves ready to oblige the *Country Readers*, we will *profess* in the *Day's Paper*.

His MAJESTY's most Gracious & to both Houses of Parliament

Thursday October 11. 1722.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I Am sorry to find my self oblige^d, it being of this Parliament, to acquaint you, that a dangerous Conspiracy has been for some time, and is still carrying on against any Government, in a Favour of a Popish Pretender. The Discoveries we have made here, the *Day's Paper* I have received from my Master, the *Minister*, the *Ministers*, the *Intelligences*, I have had from the *Popish* *Intelligences*, and have received from *Popish* *Friends*, *Popish* *Letters*, and *Popish* *newspapers*, and *Popish* *newspapermen*, who have given me insight into all these *Popish* *Conspiracies*.

“THE NEW ENGLAND COURANT”
This is the first number which bears Benjamin Franklin's name. It was published February 4-11, 1723.

THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE
Franklin greatly improved this paper when he took it over in 1729. This is the first number he issued.

THE Pennsylvania Gazette being now to be carry'd on by other Hands, the Reader may expect some Account of the Method we design to proceed in.

Upon a View of Chambers's great Dictionaries, from whence were taken the Materials of the Universal Instructor in all Arts and Sciences, which officially made the First Part of this Paper, we find that besides their containing many Things abstruse or insignificant to us, it will probably be fifty Years before the Whole can be gone thro' in this Manner of Publication. There are likewise in those Books continual References from Things under one Letter of the Alphabet to those under another, which relate to the same Subject, and are necessary to explain and complete it; these I took in their Turn very perhaps the Ten Years distant; and since it is likely that they who desire to acquaint themselves with any particular Art or Science, would gladly have the whole before them in a much less Time, we believe our Readers will not think such a Method of communicating Knowledge to be a proper One.

However, tho' we do not intend to confine the Publication of these Dictionaries in a regular Alphabetical Method, as has hitherto been done; yet as several Things exhibited from them in the Course of these Papers, have been entertaining so much of the Curious, who never had and cannot have the Advantage of good Libraries; and as there are many Things still behind, which bearing in this Manner make generally known, may perhaps become of considerable Use, by giving such Hints to the excellent natural Genius's of our Country, as may contribute either to the Improvement of our present Manufactures, or towards the Invention of new Ones; we propose from time to time to communicate such particular Parts as appear to be of the most general Consequence.

As to the Religious Courtship, Part of which has been retain'd to the Publick in these Papers, the Reader may be inform'd, that the whole Book will probably in a little Time be print'd and bound up by it self; and those who approve of it, will doubtless be better pleas'd to have it entire, than in this broken interrupted Manner.

There are many who have long design'd a good News-Paper in Pennsylvania; and those Gentlemen who are able, will contribute towards the making this such. We assure you we are fully sensible, that it will be no easy Task to be. The good News-Paper is not so easy an Object as many People imagine it to be. The Gazette (in the Opinion of the Learned) is to be qualify'd with an extensive Association with Languages, a great Ease of writing and Relating Things clearly, and in few Words; to be familiar with the Events both by Land and Sea, acquainted with Geography, with the several Interests of the States, the Secrets of Courts, and the Manners and Customs of all Nations. Men capable of it are very rare in this rem-
ainder of the World; and it would be well if of these Papers could make up among what is wanting in himself.

Upon the Whole, we may assure you that as far as the Encouragement we will enable us, no Care and Pain will be spared, that may be necessary to make the Pennsylvania a agreeable and useful an Entertainment. Nature of the Thing will allow.

The Following is the last Letter from his Excellency Governor Burnet to the House of Representatives at Boston.

It is not with us with a Hope as to convi-
-ing the Trouble to answer your Me-
-sage, to open the Eyes of the deluded
-You represent, and whom you are at most
-in Ignorance of the true State of their Affairs
-So further for an undeniable Proof of this
-and then, than your ordering the Letter
-Wards and Belter on the 7th of June last to be
-published. This Letter is said (in Par-
-ticular) to make a Copy of the Report of the
-minister of His Majesty's Privy Council, with the
-proposition and Order thereon in Council. Yet it
-had, at the same time the unparallel'd P-
-rity to the Speaker in this Manner; I will
-Candid, what is proposed to be the Consequence
-of this. Major's Information (the auto-



FRANKLIN'S OLD BOOK SHOP

This was near Christ Church, Philadelphia. The reproduction here is made through the courtesy of The Century Company, and is copyrighted by them.

Poor Richard, 1733.

AN

Almanack

For the Year of Christ

1733,

Being the First after LEAP YEAR.

And makes since the Creation

By the Account of the Eastern Greeks	Years
By the Latin Church, when Christ. Y.	7241
By the Computation of W. W.	6932
By the Roman Chronology	5742
By the Jewish Rabbies.	5682
	5494

Wherein is contained

The Lunations, Eclipses, Judgment of the Weather, Spring Tides, Planets Motions & mutual Aspects, Sun and Moon's Rising and Setting, Length of Days, Time of High Water, Fairs, Courts, and observable Days.

Fitted to the Latitude of Forty Degrees, and a Meridian of Five Hours West from London, but may without sensible Error, serve all the adjacent Places, even from Newfoundland to South Carolina.

By RICHARD SAUNDERS, Philom.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and sold by B. FRANKLIN, at the New Printing-Office near the Market

BONIFACIUS.

AN ESSAY
Upon the GOOD, that is to be
Devised and Designed,
BY THOSE
Who Desire to Answer the Great END
of Life, and to DO GOOD
While they Live.

A BOOK Offered,
First, in General, unto all CHRISTIANS,
in a PERSONAL Capacity, or in
a RELATIVE.

Then more Particularly,
Unto MAGISTRATES, unto MINISTERS,
unto PHYSICIANS, unto LAWYERS,
unto SCHOLEMASTERS, unto Wealthy
GENTLEMEN, unto several Sorts of
OFFICERS, unto CHURCHES, and
unto all SOCIETIES of a Religious
Character and Intention. With Humble
PROPOSALS, of Unexceptionable
METHODS, to Do Good in the World.

Eph. VI: 18 Knowing that whatsoever Good thing any man does, the same shall he receive of the Lord.

BOSTON in N^o England Printed by B Green, for
Samuel Gerrish at his Shop in Corn Hill 1710

“ESSAYS TO DO GOOD”
“If I have been, as you seem to think, a useful citizen,”
Franklin wrote to Dr. Mather, “the public owes the
advantage of it to that book.”



FRANKLIN BEFORE THE LORDS IN COUNCIL AND THE STORY OF "THE HUTCHINSON LETTERS"

THIS famous picture by Christian Schussele was intended to show the scene in the "Cockpit" before the Privy Council where Alexander Wedderburn, solicitor general for King George III, attacked the honor of Franklin. Wedderburn accused Franklin of stealing and publishing private correspondence. On the strength of this unjust charge, Franklin was two days later removed from his office as deputy postmaster-general in America.

"I hope, my lords, you will mark and brand the man, for the honor of this country, of Europe, and of mankind," declared Wedderburn with impassioned oratory. "Private correspondence has hitherto been held sacred in times of the greatest party rage, not only in politics but religion. He has forfeited all the respect of societies and of men. Into what companies will he hereafter go with an unembarrassed face, or the honest intrepidity of virtue? Men will watch him with jealous eye; they will hide their papers from him, and lock up their escritoires. He will henceforth esteem it a libel to be called a *man of letters*; this man of *three letters*."

The facts today appear to be generally unknown regarding *The Hutchinson Letters* and

the outrage to which Franklin submitted before the Privy Council on January 11, 1774. Even our recent postmaster-general, Hubert Work, thought Franklin was guilty as charged. In a syndicated article published in the Sunday newspapers January 21, 1923, Mr. Work apologizes for Franklin, saying in effect that he, in his zeal to promote the cause of the colonies, took advantage of his position as deputy postmaster-general to open and publish certain private letters that passed through his hands.

James Parton tells the story of *The Hutchinson Letters* in his *Life of Benjamin Franklin*, which is undoubtedly the best life of Franklin that has been written. "One day in the latter part of 1772," says Parton, "Dr. Franklin was conversing with a member of Parliament upon the violent proceedings of the ministry against Boston, particularly the attempt to compel obedience to hateful measures by quartering troops in the town." The member of Parliament told Franklin that the very measures he was protesting against were suggested and urged upon the British government by Americans—"by some of the most respectable among the Americans themselves."

Some time later this member of Parliament put into Franklin's hands a packet of letters written by various Americans, and that did advise all the acts that England had taken to coerce the colonies. The address of each letter had been removed but it has since been learned that they were all addressed to William Whately, a member of Parliament, recently deceased, and who had been a go-between for those who wished to convey information to the leaders in the British government.

First, therefore, we will note a correction of the statement that Franklin opened private letters, or any letters, and that he caused such letters to be published. Franklin never opened any of these letters. They had been opened no doubt by William Whately, to whom they were all addressed, and had been passed about by him among the leading men in England, as it was intended by the writers of these letters that they should be passed about among those who had influence in the government. Mr Whately in the meantime died, but the letters still continued to be passed about and finally came into possession of Franklin, as already described.

The letters of Hutchinson and all the others in the collection were in no sense private. They were every one written by public officials in America to public officials in England. Among these letters were six written by Governor Hutchinson, a native-born son of Massachusetts. Andrew Oliver, another American, and lieutenant-governor, wrote four of them. There were numerous other letters, but every one was written by some officer of the crown in America.

The man who gave Franklin these letters also gave him permission to transmit them to America, but with the understanding that they were not to be copied or published. As might be expected, the letters created a sensation in Massachusetts, and the colonies. They were carried about for many months by John Adams and John Hancock. The fact that they were finally published can in no way be held against Franklin. This was done without his knowledge or permission.

The Whately-Temple Duel

When printed copies of the letters reached England, there was immediately a great deal of public discussion over how the correspondence had come into the possession of the Americans. Franklin's connection with the letters was not known or even suspected. Thomas Whately, a brother of William Whately to whom all the letters had been originally addressed, accused John Temple of having stolen them. Temple then challenged Whately to a duel. This was fought, first with pistols, and then with swords, and Mr. Whately was twice wounded. But

neither of the two men seem to have been satisfied, and there was still further talk of another duel between them. In the meantime, Franklin who had been in the country returned to London. As soon as he learned what had transpired, he wrote, Christmas day, 1773, a letter to the *Public Advertiser* acknowledging sole responsibility for having "obtained and transmitted to Boston the letters in question."

This letter averted a second duel between Whately and Temple but it did not end the matter. Thomas Whately later instituted a suit against Franklin for a share of the profits that resulted from the publication of *The Hutchinson Letters*. This was simply a political maneuver to discredit Franklin by creating a public impression that he had derived profit from the letters, and had been influenced to publish them because of an opportunity to make some money.

The Outrage Before the Privy Council

In America, the treachery of Hutchinson and Oliver, as revealed in their letters, resulted in the drawing up of a petition to the King by the Massachusetts Assembly, asking that these two officials should be removed. This led to the hearing before the Privy Council in England where the petition was dismissed, and Alexander Wedderburn, the King's solicitor-general, took advantage of the situation to assail the honor of Franklin. In fact the whole affair was purposely arranged to make a public show of Franklin. Nearly all the great lords of England were there, 35 members of the Privy Council, including Lord North, and the Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr. Franklin stood in a recess formed by the chimney throughout the hearing, "motionless and silent." As described by an eye-witness, he maintained a placid, tranquil expression of countenance.

For more than half an hour, and entirely out of order, for the hearing was called to consider the Massachusetts petition, and not to examine Franklin, Wedderburn continued to defame Franklin, and not once was he checked in his abuse. With the exception of some few of Franklin's friends, those present expressed huge enjoyment in the entertainment the orator provided. There were frequent bursts of loud applause.

Wedderburn gained much glory by his address against Franklin. "It was the talk of the clubs, and the applause of the Tory world." Fox said, "All men tossed up their hats and clapped their hands in boundless delight at it." And Wedderburn became a peer and a judge, and finally an earl and lord chancellor.

But the King himself came at last to despise Wedderburn, and refused him an audience.

When Wedderburn (Lord Rosslyn) died suddenly, the King's only remark was,
"Then he has not left a worse man behind him."

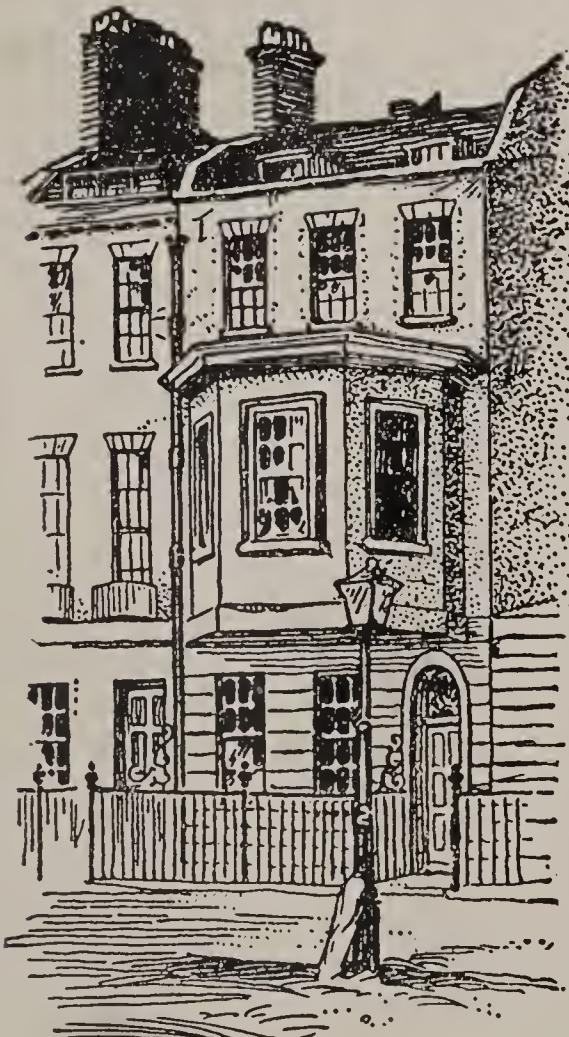
The biographies of Franklin also relate the story of the coat of spotted Manchester velvet which he wore at this hearing. Four years later when he signed the Treaty of Alliance with France, the indignities he had been subjected to before the Privy Council were still fresh in his mind, for he again put on the Manchester velvet coat — his "harlequin coat," as Lord St. Helens called it.

It is interesting to know that all of the so-called great men who took part in the examination before the Privy Council lived to be ashamed of their conduct, and some of them later

apologized to Franklin. Parton says the American Revolution followed quickly upon this scene; and Horace Walpole's epigram upon Wedderburn and Franklin is still remembered:

*Sarcastic Sawney, swol'n with spite and prate,
On silent Franklin poured his venal hate,
The calm philosopher, without reply,
Withdrew, and gave his country liberty.*

In spite of threats and other efforts that were made to induce Franklin to reveal the name of the man who gave him *The Hutchinson Letters*, he always kept the secret. It would have meant political death to the member of Parliament who is supposed to have done him this favor, if his name had been known. Franklin never told, and the world to this day does not know who this man was.



NO. 7 CRAVEN STREET, LONDON

This shows the home of Mrs. Margaret Stephenson where Franklin resided during all the years he represented the colonies in England. Courtesy Towle Manufacturing Company.



HOUSE AT PASSY

This is the house in which Franklin lived during his sojourn in France. From a drawing made in 1836 by Victor Hugo, and now owned by the New York Public Library.



BISQUE MEDALLION BY CHAMPION

This beautiful piece by Richard Champion of Bristol, England, is owned by Mrs. W. F. Magie, wife of Dean Magie of Princeton University.



WEDGWOOD MEDALLION

From the model by John Flaxman. This medallion was made by Josiah Wedgwood, the famous potter, who was a personal friend of Franklin's.



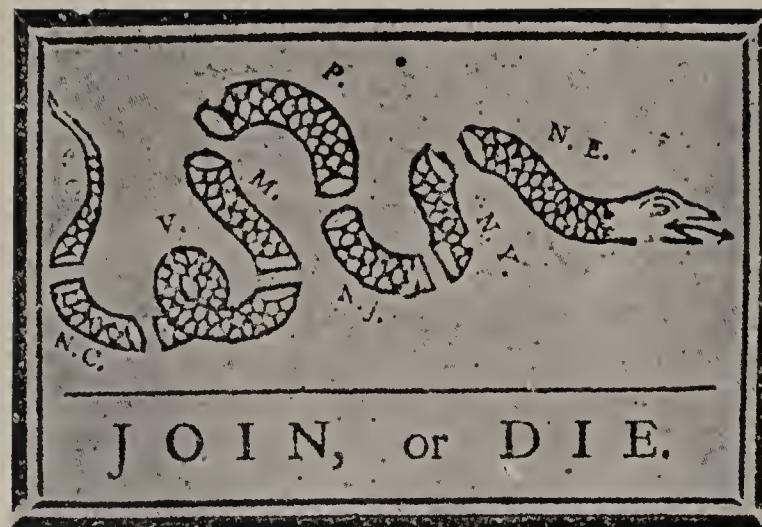
MEDALLION BY RENAUD

By Jean Martin Renaud and made probably in 1785. From the terra cotta in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.



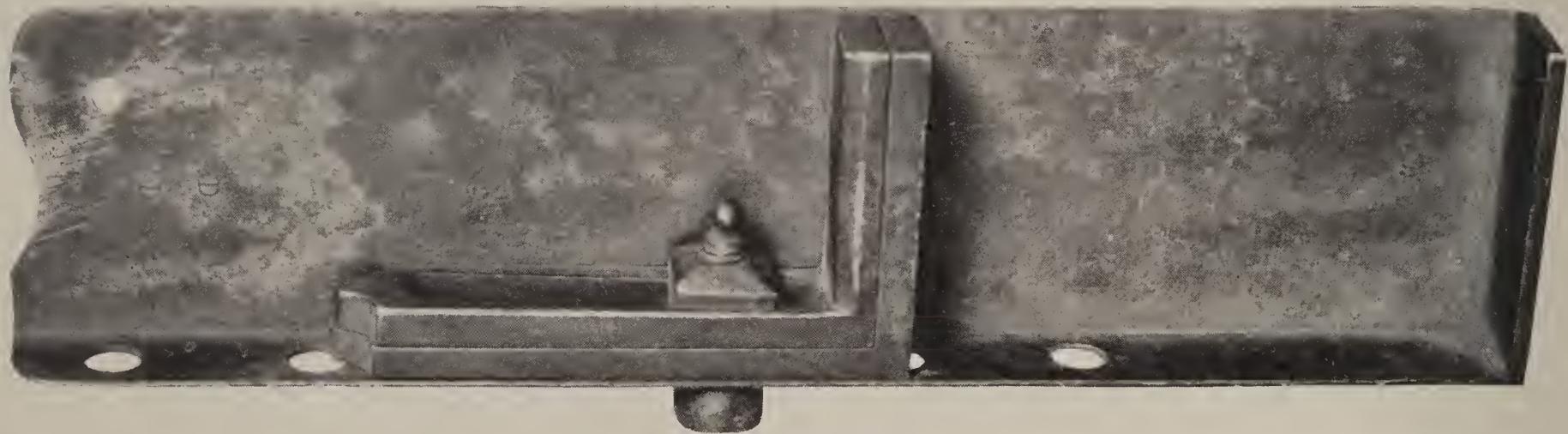
MEDALLION BY NINI

"The clay medallion of me you say you gave to Mr. Hopkins," Franklin wrote to his daughter, "was the first of the kind ever made in France."



FRANKLIN MEDALS AND NEWSPAPER CARTOON

Through a provision in Franklin's will, the medals are given every year to the schoolboys of Boston. The cartoon was made by Franklin 20 years before the Revolution.



FRANKLIN'S COMPOSING STICK

The actual stick Franklin used when he set type is now in the possession of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It is shown here through the courtesy of the Society.

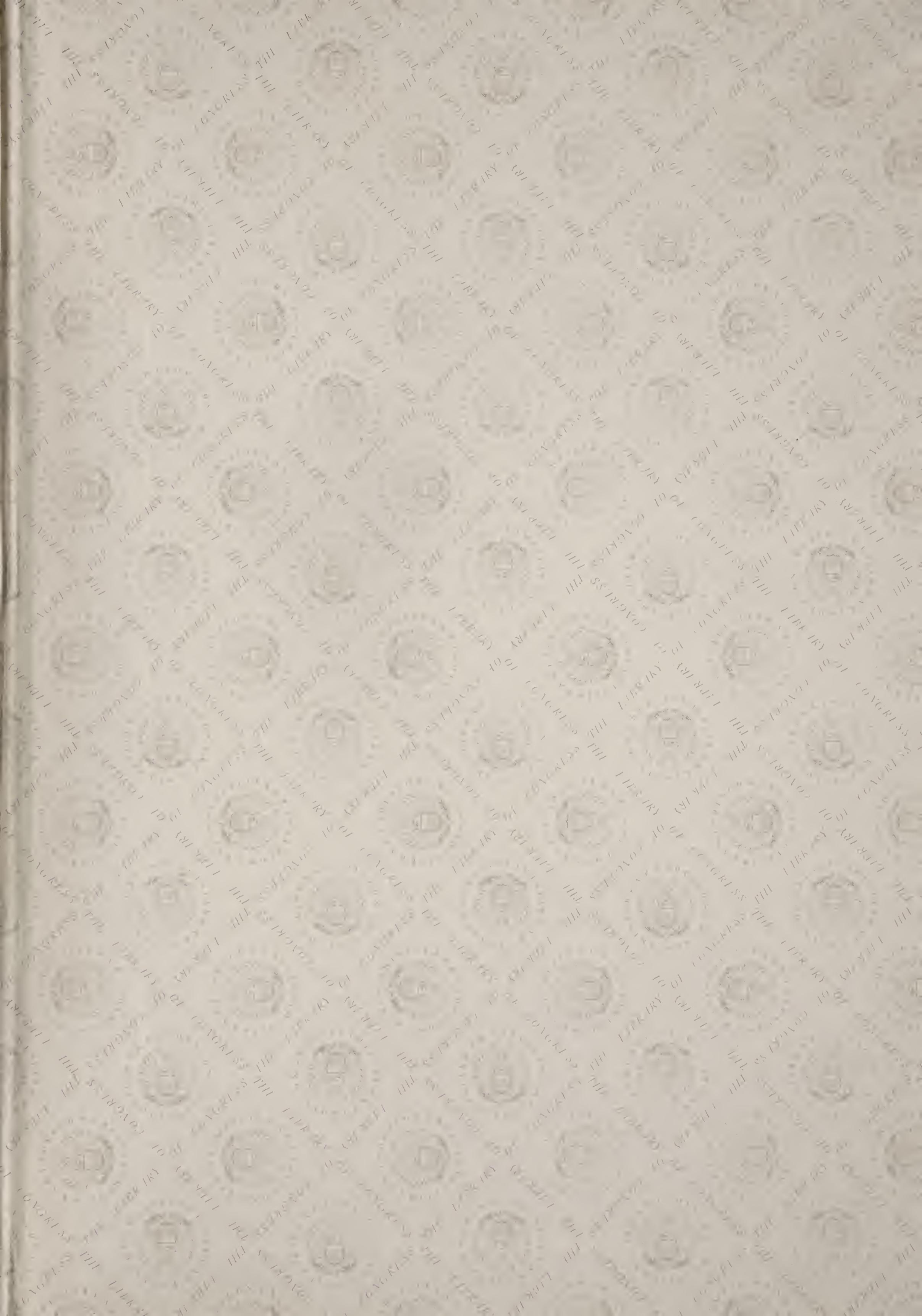


FRANKLIN'S DESK

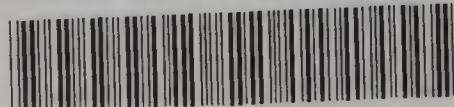
This desk came from Franklin's home in Philadelphia. It is the actual desk on which he wrote and worked. Photographed through courtesy of the University of Pennsylvania.







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